



SUMMER 1991

ISSUE 29

HEIR TO THE EMPIRE

by Timothy Zahn

Reviewed by Z. P. Florian

Finally. What should I say, after so many Starwarless years? What can I call this book? A tasty morsel. No more, alas.

The plot line could be a comic book episode. Remnants of the Empire scheming, our heroes resisting. There is some interesting tension within the Alliance, though, that promises—maybe—deeper and better chapters. Now, with the communist regimes collapsing all over the world, a more complicated line of politics must not be too difficult to find! But then, plots are mere devices for good characters to ride on, so on to the serious matter: what has happened to our heroes?

I must say that Zahn's book got them and got them right. Leia, pregnant with twins, calmer, more resourceful, and as bright as can be. Han, more mature, otherwise not much changed. He still has the Falcon. Luke, a full Jedi now, nearly invincible (well, Zahn managed to conjure up something to endanger him quite seriously). Artoo matured well: he is absolutely wonderful in this book. There is Chewie, and a tantalizing background with him, plenty of new beings, new creatures. However,

calling two very alien guardbeasts Sturm and Drang was either an in-joke or an insult to the readers' intelligence. After all, it is a far-away Galaxy... Karrde, a new kind of smuggler king, was a good character. The "girl" (you know, someone that MIGHT represent a female for Luke) is a weak idea at best. Fanzines had lots of better possibilities for our Jedi. She is, of course, the ex-right-hand of the Emperor and hates Luke with a passion.

SE WINS 3RD FAN Q

We are pleased to announce that SOUTHERN ENCLAVE won its third Fan Q Award at MediaWest*Con 11, held on Memorial Day weekend in Lansing, Michigan. As with the previous two awards, this honor belongs to you--the readers and contributors. Without your continued enthusiasm and input, SE would be absolutely nothing! A big, big THANK YOU! to each and every one of you out there!

Now the villains: A wonderful Imperial Admiral and a VERY mysterious Jedi master, who knows... The Admiral, hm, has a pretty low opinion of Vader, and when it comes to fighting the Alliance, this opinion seems to be justified. The Jedi master has possibilities; he might be crazy and evil, or good and cunning. We will see in the next two books, I am sure.

I've never thought how important Artoo, 3PO, the Falcon, and Luke's x-wing were to me until I "met" them in this book and realized that they are integral parts of the characters. We still don't know how Luke can use

the x-wing as his personal vehicle and go wherever he feels like. In a military organization, he enjoys remarkable independence. But those are the questions fanzines enjoy answering. Zahn never bothered with them.

Summing up, the book was a disappointment compared to the incredibly deep soul-searching and beautifully complicated stories of the fan writers, but it was also something no true SW fan can live without—a good, honest dose of good, honest SW. It was like watching the Trilogy on your home video with a good friend. And for that, I am thankful.

OTHER POINTS OF VIEW

Maggie Nowakowska

I've only read *HEIR TO THE EMPIRE* once, and that quickly, just before leaving for Italy. I found it a pleasant read, definitely aimed at the Young Adult market. Yes, the plot is simple and straight-forward; if the readers want to go on to higher complications in politics, they can pick up C. J. Cherryh. The book certainly makes it clear that no one at LF thought that the Emperor's death was the end of the Empire.

None of the characterizations made me wince; regarding them, Zahn seemed to touch on most of the important points that have been raised over the years by fandom, such as Luke's discomfort over what he's supposed to do with himself now and Han's ambivalence regarding his status as Leia's partner. When I reached the end, with Leia being called Lady Vader by one of the Imperials, I laughed out loud at the neat way Zahn had worked in that particular question. As for Leia, I thought she handled her pregnancy realistically, in the same matter-of-fact way the mothers I've known have handled theirs. I liked the competence Luke was allowed, and the sense of "life goes on" for Lando. No one was a superhero, the "bad guys" were intriguing, and the insinuations about the Clone War days if not many, were intriguing.

As for the omissions: for a book with politics as a main plot point, Mon Mothma is very sketchily drawn, and there's no explanation or discussion on how just well known Luke's and Leia's relationship is. It occurred

to me that these "light spots" are mostly in areas that touch on the events of the first three movies. If, as *LOCUS* stated, "Lucas was not directly involved in the approval," it's easy to guess that Lucas withheld those parts of the story he wanted to focus on himself in upcoming films.

All in all, I think *HEIR TO THE EMPIRE* is a story fans can build from, one that leaves lots of room for the reader's imagination to fill in holes. Although I know other fans wanted a deeper storyline, for me, the looseness is just fine.

Debbie Kittle

Well, I just finished reading *HEIRS TO THE EMPIRE* by Timothy Zahn. I loved it. He incorporates all the characters from the movies and adds a few of his own and there's plenty of action, suspense, etc. We get: Leia pregnant with twins, an evil Jedi clone, and a new leader of the Empire. I hope we don't have to wait too long for the next installment of this book.

In the book, he incorporates a few comments from the RPG universe in regards to Bespin's founder and a neighboring planet. I wonder if he did that or if the Lucas people said to. I'd love to see him interviewed and find out how much leeway he had.

Chris Graham

I really enjoyed *HEIR TO THE EMPIRE* (read it all in one day!), but I have a few questions. First, how can an ysalamiri repel the

Force when the Force is part of all beings? Second, what in Hades has Luke been doing for five years? Third, what happened to Chewie's family? Did he think it too big a risk to bring Leia home, too obvious a place to hide her, or has he forgotten he has a wife and son? And lastly, a clone with Jedi powers? Is this possible? It's certainly intriguing, especially with the added interest of his "defect". The ending was terrific, and I'm looking forward to part two.

Ming Nathe

The new book(?) is a great disappointment. I had expected something geared more to a mature audience. This was well-written, but Nancy Drew was more adult in concept. More to the point, I consider the book a ripoff! If you are going to break a story up into 3 parts, be honest about it! Technically, you might call this a trilogy. There will be 3 volumes, basically it is just that abomination—a continued story.

Cheree Cargill

I found HEIR TO THE EMPIRE to be a low key, readable, but not very exciting book.

I've certainly read much better written and insightful stories in zines. It held my interest while reading it, but did not compel me to pick it up again whenever I laid it down. Many of the images of the galaxy five years post-JEDI were very well done, as was the political situation. But the portrayals of the main characters were shallow and they did not seem to have changed much in that time period. One small point that niggled at me was the portrayal of Leia's pregnancy. Granted, she went through her routine as any modern woman would—by not letting it slow her up very much, and it should have to a certain degree. As a woman who worked right up to the onset of labor, I can testify that there are certain realities of pregnancy that just can't be ignored—morning sickness, swollen ankles, fatigue, etc. I have a feeling that, if a woman had written this book, Leia would have found time to put her feet up once in a while!

However, all in all, HEIR TO THE EMPIRE was a nicely done book, one that I think we can add to the volume of "secondary canon", much as we treat the novelizations and possibly the Daley books. It's probably "must" reading for any SW fan, but it certainly won't win a Pulitzer Prize.

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MATERIAL RECEIVED LATER THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER DEADLINE WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE!

CREW ROSTER

Debbie Kittle

I graduated from the University of Maryland in 1984 with a B.S. degree in Animal Science. I've worked at Gaithersburg (Maryland) Animal Hospital since March 1983 and am now senior technician. Aside from assisting the doctors, I set up appointments, x-rays, perform dentals, do all the ordering of drugs and set up continuing education talks for the doctors and staff. When I'm not working, reading zines and writing stories, I collect and read comic books, play tennis and volleyball and go to flea markets. In the picture, I'm on the left. We were preparing to go white water rafting on the Nenana River in Alaska. It's a glacier fed river and a constant 37 degrees. It was a lot of fun. I prefer to take the pictures instead of being the subject.



Matthew Whitney

Born November 3, 1961. Single. College grad (Accounting, '83). Current profession: high school teacher. Active in fandom since 1980. Major fan-nish interests: SW, ST, B7, B&B, RoS, J.R.R. Tolkien, Katherine Kurtz, McCaffrey's PERN. Other interests: 8x10 still collecting, general movies (not just SF/F) and plays, autographs, history, science and the space program, listening to music (50's to present, classical, folk, medievell—whatever's good), writing fanfic, conventions, Renaissance Faires.

Note on the photo: This was taken at a Long Island Creation Con, late summer '88. Dave Prowse didn't tell me he was going to play it for laughs, but when he put me in the choke hold, I hammed it up as best I could.





There /s Another

STAR WARS fandom is alive and growing in Europe

Maggie Nowakowska

reporting from ALLIANCECON II, May 18-19, 1991, Republic of San Marino (Italy)

When speaking of SW fandom, there's no doubt in my mind now that *both* hope and people are the "other." I've just returned from Italy, from ALLIANCECON II, and I am happy to report that the fans I met there are vividly interested in STAR WARS and the worlds of fandom inspired by the Saga.

I met fans interested in fanzines, in role-playing, and in modelling. We talked about missing scenes in the movies, the starships and the costumes. We socialized, watched interviews and old SW TV programs and, of course, TESB and JEDI.

For 4 days, Italian fans, along with representatives from Germany and England — and yours truly with my partner in adventure, Susan Matthews — proved false the claim that SW fandom must die.

Yes, there were some differences between the continents, but in the differences lay ways through which American SW fandom can prosper and grow.

As for how Susan and I ended up in Italy this May...well, a long time ago, in a winter far far away, an editor of an Italian fanzine asked if he could reprint the two articles I had written on Joseph Campbell for *Southern Enclave*.

Of course, I said yes (who wouldn't?). Soon I was writing new articles for *Alliance* and Gian Paolo Gasperi and I were corresponding regularly. We exchanged information on our mutual fandoms, and Gian kept me up to date on the progress of the first SW convention that the SW club, ALLIANCE, held in conjunction with the national Italian SF meeting, ITALCON (the Italian equivalent of WORLDCON). The first con was such a success, ALLIANCE decided to hold a second con. And to my surprise, and much blushing, in the mail came an invitation to be a Guest of Honor at ALLIANCECON II.

No, I don't speak Italian; Gian Paolo had had my articles translated. But, hey, it was two years away and a person can learn, can't she?

Two years became tomorrow very quickly. Susan and I took conversational Italian and I made dupes of any SW material I had on tape. Jenni Hennig made a copy of the SW Holiday Special; I caught first generation copies of *The Battle for Endor* movie and *The Power of Myth* series, and worked on an presentation discussing the ways Joseph Campbell's *Hero With a Thousand Faces* influenced Lucas and SW.

We were ready, by the Force, and boy did the Force have a few surprises for us. First, the Gulf War struck and although we got a fantastic airfare price out of the slack in travel to Europe (\$465 round-trip to

Milan), the mail also stopped getting through. Not fun, so close to a con. Fortunately, Express Mail goes to Italy. Second, the day we were set to leave, Seattle to NYC to Milan, our flight gets cancelled half an hour before take-off. I never knew I could run from the last gate to the ticket counter so fast carrying a duffel full of heavy fannish necessities.

The agent took a deep breath when we told him that we weren't vacationers; we had to make connections, no questions asked. Well, maybe we should have asked questions because he rerouted us through St. Louis to Charles DeGaul Airport in Paris, which is an airport that is so spread out that the bus you take after disembarking onto the tarmac travels between terminals by taking the *highway*. Something else we didn't learn was that our layover times between flights was reduced to about 45 minutes — assuming the planes were on time. I won't bore you



Darth Vader (secretly known as Fabrizio Bertellino) invites fans to enjoy ALLIANCECON II.

with details, but let it be said that we both flew and ran like banshees across the hemispheres.

And after Milan, it was a 2+ hour trip to Modena. Our weary brains were barely able to manage, "Siamo Americane; siamo stupide. È questo il treno a Modena?" Let it be said here that Italians are gracious people, even with cross-eyed tourists, and yes, a gentleman replied, this is the train to Modena, which is the eighth stop. To the delight of our weary feet, Gian Paulo was waiting for us at the station and gently deposited us in our hotel.

Luckily for us, Gian's family fed us that night (Signora Gasperi is a *great* cook) and encouraged us in our primitive Italian. Without their support, I'm certain we would not have had much confidence in our ability to communicate during the rest of the trip.

The next morning we met the ALLIANCE fans with whom we would be driving south to San Marino for the convention. The scene is familiar to all fans: two cars, eight fans, luggage and all the boxes and Vader helmets needed to set up a con.

It was two hours and 750m up to San Marino. (Some history: San Marino, the oldest republic in Europe (independent for over 800 years) is located in the heart of Italy between the Apennines mountains and the Adriatic Sea. Only 60 km big, tourism, philology, and beauty provide the Republic's economic base.)

(More history: ALLIANCE, founded in 1986, has more than 250 members with interests in SW role-playing, model-making, publishing *Alliance*, the club fanzine, and all the other usual sorts of fannish fun, talking, corresponding and getting together to enjoy the SW saga.)



ALLIANCE STAR WARS Club members,
l to r: Beppe Fassio, Gian Paulo Gasperi, Elisa Brandi, Roberto Gasperi, Sr. Gasperi, Angela Fassio, Fabrizio Bertellino, and Sra. Gasperi.

Wednesday afternoon was spent setting up for the con; that evening everyone went to dinner in what was to be the official "cheaper-eats" of this con, a pizzeria on the lower city's main street. The pizzas were quite different from the American version, thinner, with only one topping, but Susan assures me they were great, and I can attest to the delicious calamari. Capping the evening was the wonderful treat of a dessert torte and chorus of Happy Birthday — it was my 42nd that day — offered by the ALLIANCE folk, the best good-night to a birthday I have ever had.

And So Begins ALLIANCECON II

In size, ITALCON 17/ALLIANCECON II resembled an American regional con. By the end of the event, we were assured by a visitor that this year's con represented the ideal "Eurocon" very well. Registration and the dealers' areas for both cons, and all ALLIANCE activities, took place in the Teatro Turismo on the hillside below the walled city; ITALCON panels, the art show and the model show were held in the old city's library, Biblioteca di Stato, amid medieval splendor.

The presentations and the program were professional all the way. Information on both cons' activities were combined in a single, Worldcon-quality program book, complete with dramatic comic, articles, art and schedules. The posters — ITALCON's circular maze representing its theme this year, *The Labyrinth of Fantasy*, and the ALLIANCE Yoda logo — came in two versions: one simply announcing the cons, the other printed with the full con schedule. They were easy to read and everywhere for quick reference.

I was delighted when the ALLIANCECON II opening ceremonies began with a computer-graphics logo that was absolutely first-rate (a short bit of animation: as Gian Paulo explained, these things are *expensive*). It was clear that these fans had a great deal of respect for themselves and their special interests.

Registration for both cons was on-going, with zines for sale, posters displayed, and a selection of over 60 American fanzines tracing the entire history of SW fanzine publishing available for on-loan examination. ITALCON's dealing area consisted of books, books and more books, and posters and flyers; the ALLIANCE room dealt mostly in magazines, models, comics and photographs from the movies.

Lots of People from Lots of Places

Susan and I were not the only visitors to Italy for the con. Two English fans, Jason Grant, *The Moons of Yavin* SW club, and Craig — omigod, what was Craig's last name? Smith, I believe, but it isn't on the flyer for *The UK STAR WARS Fan Club* — arrived with information on their organization; and from Berlin came Frank Bitterhof, editor of the *STAR WARS Fan Connection*.

American fanzines in the ALLIANCE welcome and registration area, many donated by Jennie Hennig and The Corellian Archives



A difference 'tween here and there: In Europe, most zine activities seem to take place in clubs; zines are published by a club as part of membership. We had a bit a trouble at first explaining how American zines are put together and distributed. The singularity of zine projects, and the isolation of most American fans was seen as a difficulty to be overcome by getting together with other fannish friends. On one hand, I agree that we could use more cooperation in our fandom. On the other hand, Cheree in Texas can't very well give Ming in California or Catherine in NYC a call and ask them to hop over to Garland for a weekend to put together the next SE.

Back to the con. Programming began late Thursday afternoon, with the official opening, the video "From SW to JEDI: The Making of a Film Saga," a presentation by Frank Bitterhof on the missing scenes from ANH and the various cuttings from the other movies, and the beginning of a tournament SW role-playing game.

Communication, Communication, Communications...You Get the Idea

Friday started with videos of interviews and movie reviews, ancient and new, gleaned from our home video library. Everything from Siskal and Ebert to Hamill's introduction to the first commercial showing of ANH to ABC 20/20's "Wizard of Skywalker Ranch." Many ALLIANCE people are John Williams fans, so I was glad to have captured a 1983 interview with him on the *TODAY* show's JEDI special.

Frank discussed the various starships, their similarities and differences; he also showed videos of an incredible display of SW models put on by ILM for a Marin County fair.

The afternoon programming began with the showing of *The Battle for Endor*

Another difference in cons: Events in Italy went on far longer into the late afternoon than at American cons. Whereas in the States, a major panel or presentation would be held at 1:00 or 2:00 pm, in Italy, lunch began at 1:00 and programming didn't resume until 3:00 with the Big Show more likely to start at 4:00. (As for dinner, restaurants don't open until 7:30!)

Friday's major panel, *The International Situation of SW Fandom*, included me and the non-Italian fans, Craig, Jason, and Frank. Gian Paulo sat as moderator, with Elisa Brandi helping with translations.

I sat on two panels during the con and in both, the main focus became how better communications can both help everyone to know that other fans exist and assist in better interaction among fans who have different areas of interest within the SW universe.

I've already mentioned that European fans are organized into clubs; I can add that they have some of the same problems we have regarding lack of active participation, keeping correspondence current and the way differences of focus in fandom can keep individuals within a club apart. Frank mentioned the deadly phrase, *consumer fandom*, and said that the unwillingness of many people to write letters, let alone contribute, was a major reason he decided to put his club/zine on hiatus. (By the by, *The SW Fan Connection* was printed in English.)

All three of the guys expressed great interest in making contact with American fans. I asked them if they had ever sent information to SE. They didn't know about SE and asked if it had ever been listed in *Starlog*, which apparently is a major source of information/communication for European fans. I said

something about *Starlog* being considered too commercial for many fannish tastes, but that didn't make sense to them, so I settled for adding that it just hasn't been a major source for fannish communication. They suggested it could be, at least overseas, so, fan editors, maybe you have a market there.

That evening, after dinner, we settled down to watch the trilogy — in Italian. Let it be said here that Han Solo sounds great in Italian. Everybody did, actually, although Luke's deeper voice was startling. Vader and the Imperials spoke perfect Italian while the Alliance was more relaxed in its speech. And some problems did not exist, such as how to interpret the word *master*: In Italian, Vader addressed the Emperor as *padrone*, a different matter implying far more dangerous obligations than with Luke's address for Yoda, which was *maestro*.

We didn't see ANH; the film had an optical sound track while our machine read mag. But TESB and JEDI were filled our time well, especially with the costume call held between the films.

European fandom isn't as enthralled with costuming as Americans are. (In England, at the 1979 Worldcon, I was surprised at the casual attitude toward costumes; and there were no hall costumes.) This year, seven ALLIANCE masqueraders made the long walk across the stage and up to the audience: three Lukes and one Leia, Han, Yoda and Vader each.

At 2 am, the theatre personnel kicked us out and we stumbled back to our hotels to get ready for a 9 am panel. (which Gian Paulo agreed the next morning, was a bit early....)



Lucky me, Susan Matthews, and ALLIANCE editor, and Con Coordinator, Gian Paulo Gasperi.

Whose SW is it anyway?

I was not convinced that I should be on the second panel, *SW Role-Playing: the Last Frontier of Fandom?* I don't role-play, I protested; don't worry, I was told, we're sure you'll have something to contribute. And much to my surprise, most of the conversation revolved around the integration of role-playing into established fandom. Even arguing over the accuracy of the information on the SW universe in the role-playing games proved relevant to all fans.

Basically, the question was one of *What defines the STAR WARS universe?* Whose universe is real? The world of the original fan who lived through the 6 years between ANH and JEDI? Or of the fan who comes to SW with all the collateral material he or she could want available right now? Or the world of the role-player who has volumes of West End Games data on SW at hand and who is pushing the limits of what defines SW as described in the role-playing game documentation? And how do these different fans talk to each other if their SW "facts" and impressions are not, and cannot be, the same?

At the panel, at least four generations of SW fans were counted. And with the possibility (finally) of new movies, we're looking at at least another generation very soon.

I can't say we solved the problem. We discussed the contradictions in the various presentations of SW and debated whether there should be a recognized canon. We talked about the image gamers have of being young, inexperienced boys who like to play war games (the Italian gamers were interested in many of the same things fanzine fans were: the politics and the relationships of the SW universe). There apparently is a bit of a controversy over West End's authenticity — does anyone here in America have information on that? Let Craig and Frank know about it!

I was invited to take part in a game that evening, but the banquet got in the way. I wish I had gone. Generally, I've believed that I have available energy for only one output in SW fandom, writing, and have kept to that. I could be wrong.

Other activities on Saturday included modeling discussions and displays, viewing The SW Holiday Special which hadn't made it past American borders before — I know, it should have stayed in America. Believe me, the audience groaned as much as we did years ago. And, boy, did we get the questions about American culture afterwards and how the Special every came about in the first place!

At 4, I gave my paper, followed by the tape on Joseph Campbell, *The Hero's Journey*.

Various annual awards were given out that evening in the Teatro. There is more overlap between the SF world and the fanlit world in Italy, which we were glad to see. May it someday be more so here.



A spectacular way to throw a Con banquet.

Seated, left to right: Gian Paolo Gasperi, Jason Grant, Craig Smith (?), and Frank Bitterhof.

The film that night was **HIDDEN FORTRESS**, but we had the banquet to attend. And what a banquet it was! Held at a restaurant high within the old city — have I mentioned that **LADYHAWK** was filmed in San Marino? — it was simply marvelous.

American cons take note: spumanti (champagne) to start, beautiful service plates for four courses (risotto with asparagras, lasange, scalapine with potato and aspararas) plus antipasto, two kinds of wine and mineral water on the table at all times, and espresso at the end is the way to put on a banquet. And all for about \$38.00.

The Italians know how to present awards, too: no lengthy speeches, just a handshake, a kiss on the cheek, and a thank-you. And I'm not going to tell anyone about how I was caught in the bathroom when the presenter called for the American guest to come up front. No, I'm not. Sic transit gloria.

Time to Go

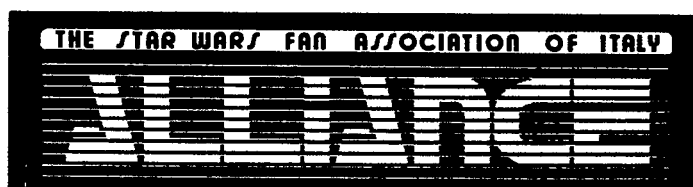
On Sunday morning, the con focused on a meeting of Japanese animation fans, **AJJA Association**. The various SW animations were discussed, followed by a panel on the question of violence in anime. At 1:00, **ALLIANCECON II** was officially closed, which is not to say ended. Although Susan

and I returned to Modena with Beppe, Angela and Fabrizio, Gian Paulo stayed on through the afternoon, striking the set and greeting fans who turned up even that late on a Sunday.

Early Monday morning, Gian Paulo, as sleepy as we were, returned us to the train station for our trip to Milan. Good-byes were all too quick (for one thing, the train's 1st class coaches were at the end of the train instead of the beginning as we thought, so, once again we ran), and in moments we were settling into our comfy seats for a 2-hour doze north. The rest of the trip was uneventful (whew!); we made it through the four layers of passport review to the plane in Milan, stretched out on the couches of a last-stop TWA gate at JFK in NYC, and arrived safely in cloudy Seattle around 9 pm, Monday.

Now, the stories have all been told, the pictures developed and the thank-you notes sent and received. It's sad, thinking it's all over and realizing that I'll never have mozzarella cheese so good again... But, I am newly energized over SW fandom and George is getting closer to a recognizable date for the first trilogy. Things are definitely looking up.

Besides, there's always next year when **ITALCON** will be held in Courmayeur, on a lake in the Pennine Alps near the French/Italian/Swiss border.



Let's get in touch with people!

For information on Italian fanzines, write:

Alliance P.O. Box 411-C.P.O.
Tremors 41100 Modena, Italy

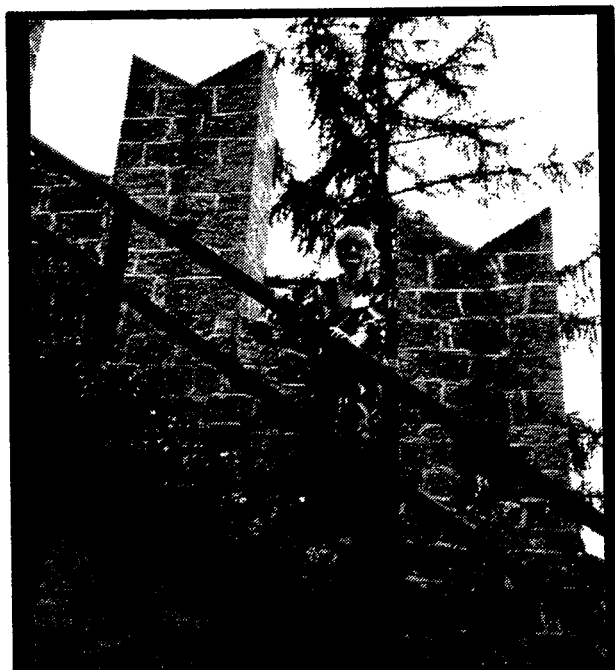
Cloud City Fiorenzo Delle Rupi
Via XX Settembre 96
6100 Perugia, Italy.

For information the two English SW clubs, write:

The Moons of Yavin	The U.K. STAR WARS
J. Grant	Fan Club
41 Pleydell Avenue	8 Victoria Close
Upper Norwood	Thornbury
London	Bristol
SE19 2Ln	Avon
	BS12 1JE
	United Kingdom

Frank's publication, SW FAN CONNECTION, went out of print in 1990. However, his eyes were gleaming at the con, so if you'd like to make contact with an avid SW fan in Germany, or order back issues with some great detail on Imperial rankings and a fine layout of the FALCON, drop Frank a line and see what's happening now that he's home:

Frank Thomas Bitterhof
Provinstr. 100, Qu 3
D-100, Berlin 51
Germany



How about these stairs to climb instead of elevators?

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CLIPPINGS

Thanks to the following for sending clippings:

Carol Peters
Debbie Kittle
Auriette Hahn
Bev Clark
Maggie Nowakowska
Melanie Guttierrez
Tina Bentrup

Sorry we couldn't print them all!

A PERSONAL STATEMENT

(EQUAL SPACE WILL BE OFFERED FOR A REPLY)

From: Ketty De Chirico, Fiorenzo Delle Rupi, Simona Degli Esposti, Giulia Garbin, Eleonora Sessa, and Mauro Zampolini:

We have all read Gian Paolo Gasperi's letter in the last issue of SE and, since we do believe that the portrait of the SW Italian fandom is somewhat altered and partial, we wish to point out that facts are different to the version represented in that letter.

The fact that Italian SW fandom is currently filled with new zines, clubs and initiatives is certainly due to the many ideas and initiatives of Alliance; alas, not to its "drawing effect", but to the desperate need to keep them at arm's length and to find a space with a more breathable atmosphere.

The club itself is not at all dedicated to the common enjoyment of the Saga and its themes; initiatives like the conventions, the RPG tournament and the meetings are all very elite; some fans were "politely" invited to leave the last convention for the simple fact of being there without the permission of the Committee; the editor of CLOUD CITY himself had to send seven requests in over a year and half simply to have an ad printed, a thing that was never accomplished because of several contradictory and fictitious reasons. We do believe that a fan club should never allow the association itself, the editors and its purposes to become more important than the object of the club itself (in this case, STAR WARS), but since Alliance has recently clearly shown that whenever the personal success and fulfillment of its editors are involved, STAR WARS and the love for the Saga come second, it is our duty to point the situation out and warn foreign fans of the true nature of the people with which they might deal. We do not wish to condemn anyone, but we will not stand by while others try to offer a totally personal and relative point of view as the Official Voice of our country's fandom.

((Editor's note: I have no idea what the quarrel is between the various groups of Italian fans and I will not allow it to spill over into the pages of SE. There will be NO letter wars allowed in this letterzine! As has been stated time and again, I will offer equal space for a rebuttal and there the issue will end.))

WELCOME TO HELLCON!

*Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Lansing, Michigan, and Hellcon... er... MediaWest*Con 1991. For your enjoyment, we have lost your luggage, double-booked your hotel facilities with not one but two wedding parties of mundanes, arranged for high heat and humidity, and set the hotel fire alarm so that it will go off repeatedly and without warning all weekend long. We hope you enjoy your stay in Hell!*

Egads! Was it that kind of weekend? You bet it was—and more!

For those of you who haven't heard, there were major problems with the Lansing Holiday Inn West. The hotel ownership changed hands last year when the Hilton Inn was sold to the Holiday Inn people. Last year's con was normal but evidently this year the management decided that we were no longer welcome. Eight days before the con, they informed Lori Chapek-Carleton that we would have to vacate our already reserved facility space because they had booked in two wedding parties for Friday and Saturday nights. It was too late to make other arrangements, so we all made do with a frantic shuffling of activities, spaces and panels. Somehow, it all came off more or less on schedule, but I believe that Gordon and Lori are suing the hotel for breach of contract. At the very least, they've lost our business and MediaWest*Con will be moving to a new hotel next year. SASE Lori for more info.

For all of that, it was a fun con and there were many SEers in attendance. It was very good to meet Judy Yuenger, Tina Bentrup, Cheryl Pryor, Leanne Wingo (welcome to SE!), and so many others. It was good to see Carolyn Gollidge back with us, along with Ming Wathne, Tim Blaes, Wanda Lybarger, Barbara Anderson, Rebecca Carey, Cypher, Laura Virgil, Kathy Agel, Annie Wortham, and Leah Rosenthal. Apologies to everyone I haven't named here. I see so many folks at the con, I can't remember who all I spoke with and who I didn't!

First up on Saturday morning was the STAR WARS panel and it was a good one! One of the

major topics of discussion was the fact that SW fandom has splintered and that each little group has become isolated from the others. The two largest groups are the SE group and the Forces of the Empire, led by Pat Grant Grunewald and Seth Bonder. Other groups include Carolyn Frodsham's Sons and Daughters of the Force, the HIBERNATION SICKNESS readership, and lots of other groups that we're trying to discover. And, of course, there are the overseas fan groups in Italy, Germany, England and Australia. You'll find flyers for various groups in this issue.

Judith Yuenger has volunteered to serve as a central contact point in an attempt to get all of us together. You will also find at the back of this issue a copy of the STAR AWARDS questionnaire. Please detach it, fill it out and mail it back to Judy.

Sunday night at MediaWest saw our first annual SE gathering, which was fairly well attended, considering it was opposite the art auction. Thanks to everyone who came—especially to Tim Blaes and his kilt, Cypher and her blaster, and the Jawa with the Joy Juice (I believe that was Tina Bentrup hiding under there). We didn't get much business taken care of, but we sure had a good time sitting around and talking SW! See you next year, guys? And hopefully we'll have a better time and location.

The usual apologies for the issue being late. It's partially my fault, partially your fault, and partially nobody's fault.

My days have been eventful since last issue. To start with, I left my full-time job on May 31, after a year of barely having time to look up, peppered throughout with several bouts of illness. The last week I was there was punctuated by the trip to MediaWest so I worked that last week jet-lagged and sleep-deprived and just plain exhausted.

So, I should have had plenty of time to catch up on my sleep, right? Wrong! I immediately began continuing education courses in microcomputer applications. I hope to be certified in desktop publishing programs and

networked computers by next year. The days I'm not going to school, I'm generally working as a freelance legal secretary, as I did before I took the full-time job last summer. Granted, I do have more leisure time now but there's a year's worth of undone chores around the house to catch up on, as well. During the first two weeks in June, I had the furnace vents cleaned, moved 9/10ths of the house into the garage so that the carpets could be cleaned professionally (and am in the process of going through all that junk we cleaned out of the closets and the back bedroom to see what we really need), had the back door rescreened, then I repainted it and began painting the back of the house, had several small plumbing problems fixed, regROUTED the bathtub, and was a housewife and mommy! Oh, yes, I worked on SE, too.

But this issue's lateness is partially your fault because you all had so darn much to say this time (so what else is new?)! Plus, LoCs and material kept coming in right up until the first of July and it has taken me several weeks to type up all that stuff! After giving the matter some thought, I've decided that some guidelines will have to be adhered to, or else issues will never get done. Therefore, as of the next issue, **LOCS RECEIVED LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS PAST DEADLINE WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THAT ISSUE!** They will be bumped to the next issue.

Outside influences included my 20th year high school reunion on June 22 (egads—what happened to all those people? They got old!). And, of course, the Fourth of July and all the usual celebrations, picnics, fireworks, family get-togethers, etc. And—not so pleasant—my mom (who turned 72 on July 14) fell the first of June and badly hurt her leg. It's very slow to heal and is still bothering her. The doctor told us that the bone came close to getting infected and that would have meant her losing that leg!

Plus, my dad has been diagnosed with a chronic form of leukemia, which—thank God—the doctors say can be treated medically. He feels well and hasn't slowed down much, but to those who know him, it's obvious he's not his usual spry self (and, at 75, I've seen him up on top of a house laying down shingles! I hope I have that much energy when I'm his age!). So, please, spread a little Light Side goodness their way; they can use it!

And, while we're on the subject of slowing down, I might as well come right out and admit

it—I am slowing down a bit. (Alright, I can hear the laughter out there! I know I'm a workaholic and my idea of slowing down is to only work 16 hours a day instead of 18.) But the fact of the matter is, I have been developing arthritis and possibly carpal tunnel syndrome in my right hand and arm, the result of pounding keyboards for over 20 years. As time goes by, it is becoming increasingly more painful to type. So, if the zines take a bit longer to come out than normal, it's because I can only work on them for limited times at a stretch before my fingers start to ache and I have take a rest.

Please give me plenty of lead time and don't send your LoCs in at the very last minute. And please try to hold them to a reasonable length—about three typewritten pages. Many are starting to come in 6 or 8 pages long and it may take me several days to type a single letter.

If you have access to an IBM PC or compatible, you can send your LoCs on 5-1/4" floppies in either WordPerfect 5.0 or 5.1, or ASCII format. The WordPerfect conversion program can also handle WordStar 3.3, Multimate Advantage II, and WordPerfect 4.2. Please note which program you are using and please send a hard copy along with it just in case the diskette is damaged. I will return your floppies as soon as possible. Your assistance is greatly acknowledged—it will mean that SE will be produced faster and maybe we'll actually get back to four issues a year!

I'd especially like to welcome A. G. Steyn to SE. Anette is a German fan brought into the next by Mary Urhausen and I think you'll find that she is a wonderful addition to our pages. You'll find one of her cartoons in this issue, plus several clippings from German magazines and newspapers that she has translated for us. Welcome!

And I'd like to propose a couple of new features that we'll start next issue if there's enough interest—a penpal column and an artist/author exchange. If you'd like SW penpals (especially overseas ones) or if you overseas fans would like to correspond with American fans, let me know and I'll publish addresses. And, if you're an editor, artist or author looking to get in touch with others, we'll do that, too. I ran across this idea in an very, very old issue of the STAR TREK WELCOMMITTEE newsletter, A PIECE OF THE ACTION, which I

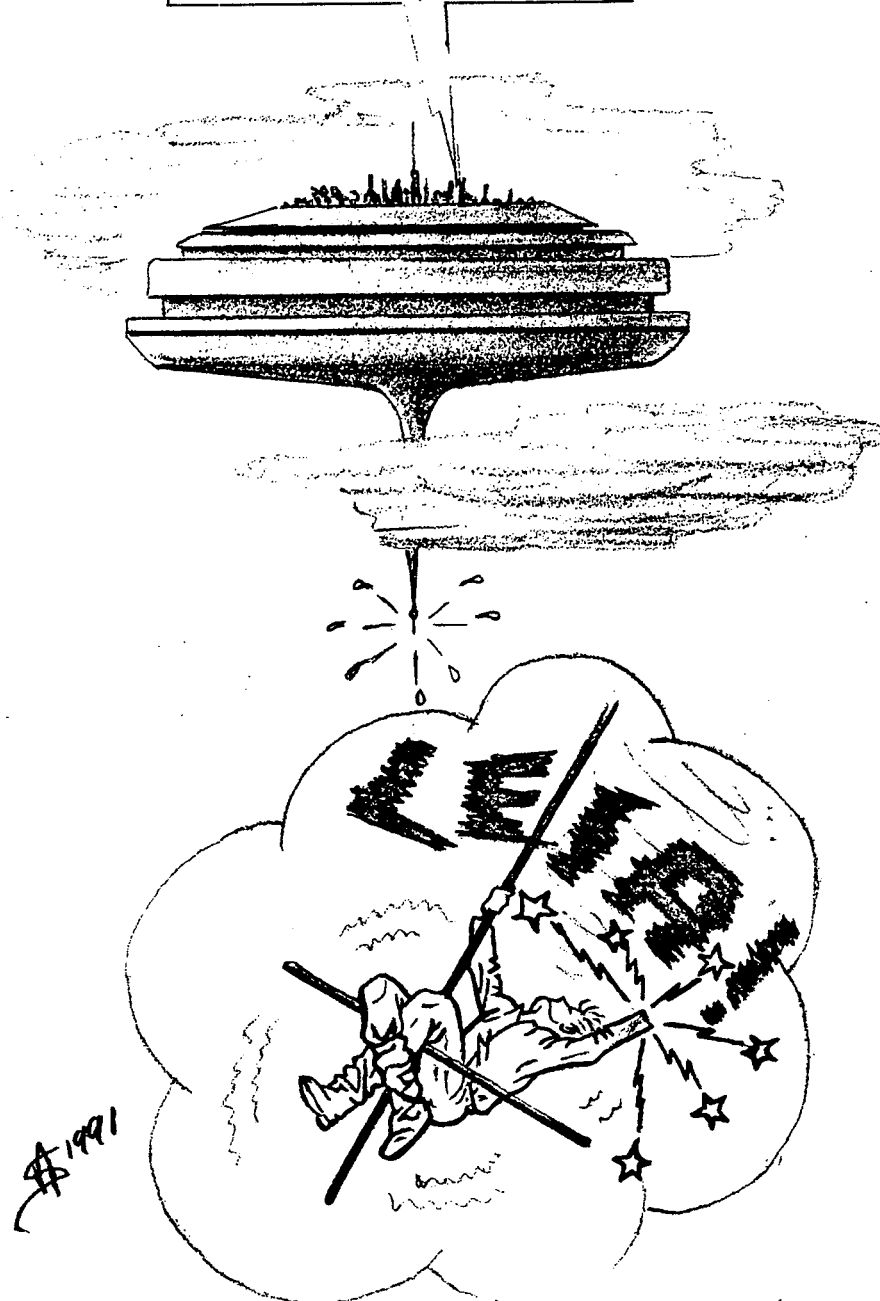
wrote a column for back in the '70's. I think it's a marvelous idea and hope you all do, too.

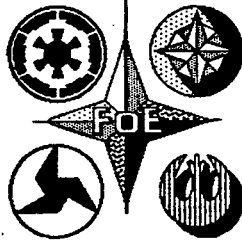
A quick recommendation and I'll sign off—if you haven't seen *THE ROCKETEER*, go see it! It's a marvelously fun movie and just the thing for a nice afternoon matinee. Get yourself a

large bag of popcorn and settle back. I kept thinking what a great Indiana Jones movie it would have made! Hey, wait a minute...let's see, the Nazis are after Indy and he finds this rocket pack and...

Clear skies, everyone!

"Hey - has somebody finally adjusted the TV antenna? All of a sudden we receive a much better picture..."





Pat Grant Grunenwald

Forces of the Empire

4374 Okemos Rd., B-204
Okemos, MI 48864

Recently, Forces of the Empire, a Star Wars fan club, received a letter from Dave Prowse, the actor who played Darth Vader. We were sorry to hear that Dave is having some problems right now. He is suffering from arthritis and has had to have a hip replaced. He is also the victim of a hereditary disease which has destroyed the small nerve endings going down to his left foot, destroying his ankle joint, and for which there is no cure. He is getting around these days with the help of a cane, is not currently acting, and feels his acting career is over. However, he is keeping busy with other activities and is in fairly good spirits.

He is also missing contact with his fans, and with fandom in general. He says he hasn't been invited to a convention in the states in ages, and would love to start coming again. He says he is willing to do a convention for a nominal fee, only the cost of transportation and living expenses at the con. If you know of anyone organizing a convention and looking for guests, tell them about Dave, and you can give them my name and address and I'll get them in touch with him.

Forces of the Empire has decided we would like to invite Dave to MediaWest*Con in 1992, as a guest of the club. Since Media has no official guests, Dave would be a regular member of the con. We are a small club though, and will need the help of donations toward the expenses. All donators will be acknowledged. (Please let us know if you'd like to donate, but wish to remain anonymous) If we collect more than is needed, all extra money will be donated to the Arthritis Foundation.

I would like all members of MediaWest*Con to write me and let me know if you'd like to see Dave at Media, and if you can donate to the cause, how much. If you are, or will be, contributing, please include a S.A.S.E.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!!!

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE FORCE

IF YOU ARE A STAR WAR SAGA FAN, "STAR WARS, EMPIRE, JEDI", YOU'LL WANT TO JOIN OUR FAMILY. OUR NEWSLETTERS ARE WRITTEN BY FANS FOR FANS. WE FEATURE ARTICLES, SHORT STORIES, CON REPORTS, PEN PALS, POETRY, AND MUCH MORE. WHOEVER YOUR FAVORITE STAR WAR CHARACTER MAY BE, YOU'LL ENJOY OUR NEWSLETTER, AS WE FEATURE THEM ALL. WE ARE MAINLY DEDICATED TO THE CHARACTERS OF THE FIRST THREE FILMS, BUT WE'LL KEEP ALL FANS UP TO DATE ON FUTURE STAR WAR SAGA FILMS.

SO, DON'T MISS OUT, JOIN US AND THE FORCE WILL BE WITH YOU - ALWAYS! WE ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO THE POETRY AND SHORT STORIES (PG RATED PLEASE), ETC. YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND IN TO US, AS WE ARE IN NEED OF NEW MATERIAL.

DUES IS PAID ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. EACH JAN. U.S. MEMBERS PAYS \$11.00 (OVERSEAS \$14.00, PLEASE SEND INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS OR POSTAL MONEY ORDERS. NO REPLY COUPONS PLEASE.) ALL OUR MEMBERS RECEIVE: MEMBERSHIP CARD, THREE NEWSLETTERS PER YEAR (MARCH - JULY - NOV); PLUS AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER FANS. (SHOULD YOU JOIN US IN JULY, FOR EXAMPLE, DUES IS STILL \$11.00, AS YOU WILL RECEIVE THE MARCH NEWSLETTER ALSO, THEN COME THE FOLLOWING JAN, YOUR DUES WILL BE DUE AGAIN.)

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE NON PROFIT. WE, SONS AND DAUGHTERS, ARE A NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN FANS.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: CAROLYN FRODSHAM, 913 S. GRAND AVE SP.# 44, SAN JACINTO, CA 92383 (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CAROLYN FRODSHAM, NOT THE CLUB. THANK YOU.)

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN TO ABOVE ADDRESS: (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY/STATE/ZIP

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR NAME FEATURED IN OUR PEN PAL COLUMN? IF YES, LIST YOUR HOBBIES AND FAVORITE SW CHARACTER BELOW. PLEASE PRINT.

L'IMPERO COLPISCE ANCORA

LA GUERRE DES ETOILES

STAR WARS

DAS IMPERIUM SCHLAGT ZURUCK

STAR WARS FANDOM IS FAR FROM DEAD IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. IN FACT, IT IS ALIVE AND KICKING. THERE ARE TWO CLUBS IN EXISTENCE: 'THE MOONS OF YAVIN', AND RECENTLY LAUNCHED, 'THE U.K. STAR WARS FAN CLUB'.

CONTACT ADDRESSES:

THE MOONS OF YAVIN
J. GRANT
41 PLEYDELL AVENUE
UPPER NORWOOD
LONDON
SE19 2LN
UNITED KINGDOM

THE U.K. STAR WARS FAN CLUB
8 VICTORIA CLOSE
THORNBURY
BRISTOL
AVON
BS12 1JE
GREAT BRITAIN

THE MOONS OF YAVIN:

" Dedicated to the investigation and support of all forms of Star Wars fandom."

This Club has been around since 1984, having been created in the wake of RETURN OF THE JEDI.

When the old OFFICIAL STAR WARS FAN CLUB closed down, we redefined the Club' objectives to, " Keeping Star Wars fandom alive until the next S.W. Club, or film."

At present, we are a Club for the 'active fan', who wishes to get involved in fandom, and participate in Club activities. Members receive the bi-monthly TELESPONDER clubzines, Datasheets on aspects of the S.W. Universe, and regular chances to put their hard-earned Star Wars knowledge and creativity to the test, for their own, and others' pleasure.

HOLONET.

The Club's stated policy is, " The support and investigation of all forms of Star Wars fandom."

HOLONET is the method by which the policy becomes direct action. Commenced in January of 1991, HOLONET has already completed a poll of the known Star Wars fans in the U.K., to create a Star Wars Fan Network. This SWFN was the first of many milestones in British Star Wars fandom.

- * The SWFN made many more fans aware of each other's existence; thus leading onto regional groups; fans combining various skills for a common purpose.
- * The SWFN eased the circulation of the HYPERSPACE Star Wars fanzine.
- * The SWFN was instrumental in the appearance of a second Star Wars Fan Club in the country.

THE U.K. STAR WARS FAN CLUB

The Club is a non-profit organisation, run by fans for fans. In our quarterly newsletter with colour covers we include items such as interviews with cast and crew members, articles by us and other fans, the opportunity to enter competitions with rare items up for grabs, a classified section, and much, much more!



P.O. Box 118, Springvale, Victoria 3171, Australia

THE NEWSLETTER

If you are a fan of the STAR WARS saga films, the INDIANA JONES films and other Lucasfilm Ltd film productions and activities then Star Walking Inc. - The Newsletter is for you!

When you join Star Walking Inc. - The Newsletter you will be kept up-to-date and informed of the new planned STAR WARS film trilogy, news of past and present cast and crew members, up-coming Lucasfilm Ltd film productions, the many divisions and operations of Lucasfilm Ltd, Star Walking Inc. sponsored fund-raising social events and of Australian Lucasfilm related "fanish" events and happenings.

By subscribing to Star Walking Inc. - The Newsletter, you will receive quarterly newsletters (4), a membership card, member only offers, member only competitions, information about our social activities and you will be part of the Star Walking Force. Start walking for Star Walking today!

To join Star Walking Inc. - The Newsletter send \$12 (overseas members \$16 - air mailed) to : The Secretary, Star Walking Inc., P.O. Box 118 Springvale, Victoria, 3171, Australia. Please make cheques/money orders payable to Star Walking Inc. Please do not send cash.

Please fill in and send to Star Walking Inc. P.O. Box 118 Springvale, Victoria, 3171, Australia.

NAME :

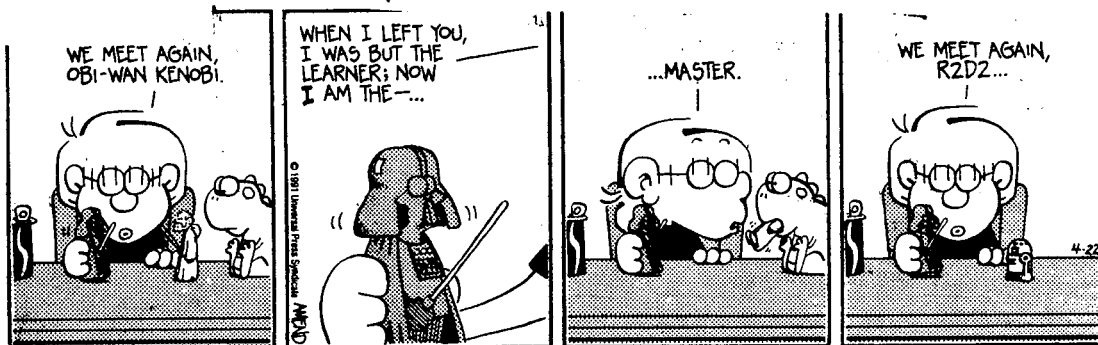
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..... STATE : POSTCODE :

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PHONE NO : SIGNATURE :

Thank you for your support.





The U.K. Star Wars Fan Club is a non-profit organisation, ran by fans for fans. The club will be launched in June and will act as a point for Star Wars fans to discuss issues, air opinions and to get to know one another as well as being a central source for information on the Star Wars saga.

In our 30 page club magazine, published quarterly we will include items such as star interviews, exclusive articles by us and other fans, the opportunity to enter competitions, a classified section and much more.

Each issue of the club magazine will be produced to the best of our combined abilities with the emphasis on being as professional as possible. Due to three of the club staff members owning some of England's biggest collections we have access to massive amount of reference material including thousands of rare photographs, books, magazines, newspaper cuttings, video and audio material.

Despite the absence of a national Star Wars fan club in England for many years, the fan contingent although faulting slightly is still very strong. We already have a large number of fans on our books including some from abroad who are interested in the club before any kind of advertising has been done.

The annual membership fee is £8 U.K. (£9 Europe, £12 Rest of the world) which will cover cost of production and postage. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to the U.K. Star Wars Fan Club, sending them to the above address. Each new member will receive a colour membership card, three postcard size colour photographs (unusual pictures) and four issues of the U.K. Star Wars Fan Club Magazine.

So if you want to be a part of a brand new nerve centre of Star Wars fandom join us and don't be left out!

The U.K. Star Wars Fan Club. 8 Victoria Close, Thornbury, Nr Bristol, Avon, BS72 2JE, England.

DESERT SUN 6-10-91

ON HOLD: CBS says Carrie Fisher's sitcom starring her mother, Debbie Reynolds, is still in the works even though it didn't make the fall lineup. It's about time someone found a first-rate TV project for Reynolds, one of the great, underrated stars in Hollywood history.

L. A. TIMES 6-4-91

'Star Wars' Strikes Back: George Lucas wants to add three more films to the "Star Wars" trilogy, said Lynne Hale, a spokeswoman for Lucasfilm Ltd. The next series, which has been the subject of considerable speculation in film circles, is expected to be a "prequel" to the original trilogy, following the early adventures of Ben (Obi-Wan) Kenobi, Darth Vader and the child Luke Skywalker. Hale stressed there is no completion date for the first film, but said the three would be finished over the next five to seven years.

The Desert Sun

JULY 5-7, 1991

'I, Claudius' tops
new July videos

Washington, D.C.:
What the postcards
never show

USA WEEKEND

inter... the
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the...
gets off the...
By si...
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Harrison Ford lightens up

34.2 MILLION READERS EVERY WEEKEND

**Harrison Ford
knows all the Ninja
Turtles, doesn't floss,
has never seen
Casablanca. ...
In a comic, crazy-quilt
conversation, the
screenwriter of Ford's
new movie coaxes the
star into telling all.**

This is my second try at interviewing Harrison Ford. My first try occurred on a plane as we flew from L.A. to New York City. I know Harrison — I wrote the screenplay for his movie, *Regarding Henry*, opening Wednesday — and I like him. But suddenly it wasn't conversation, it was business.

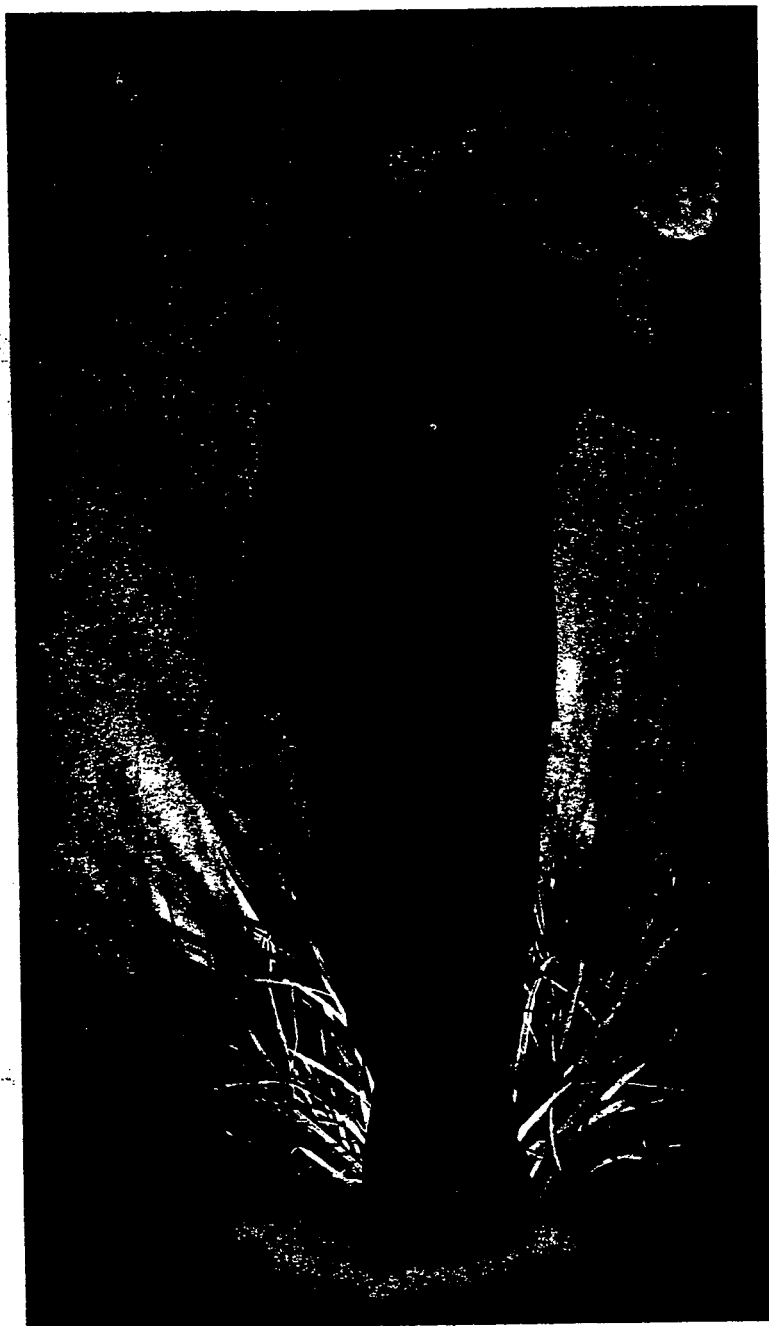
I mean, what do you ask a man who's been interviewed as many times as there are magazines? What do people want to know, anyway? I had no idea, and the interview was a disaster. After 10 minutes, Harrison took the cassette from the recorder and broke it in half. "Let's start over," he said, tossing the tape across the plane. "Put another tape in, and let's start over."

"I don't have another tape." And that was the end of the interview.

We arranged to try again at Harrison's L.A. home. This time I had a plan: I called 50 people at random throughout the United States and asked for questions. These sounded like crank calls, but they weren't.

"Hi," I said to everyone who answered. "My name's Jeffrey Abrams, and I'm doing an interview with Harrison Ford. I'm calling 50 people at random trying to find questions to ask him." I found that if you call numbers at random, one-third will be out of service, one-third will be law firms and another third will be people who will help if you just push hard enough. So I headed to Harrison's with my tape recorder and a stack of pretty good questions. I also brought along extra cassettes, just in case.

When I got to his house (picture a big, very beautiful house), Harrison's 3-year-old son, Malcolm, and 1-year-old daughter, Georgia, were in the kitchen playing catch with food. (Ford has two sons — Benjamin, 25, and



Willard, 22 — from a previous marriage.) Melissa Mathison, Harrison's wife and a screenwriter whose work includes *E.T.*, was there, too.

Harrison and I sat down in his office, which looks out on the yard. There were tea and cookies. The little chocolate ones were the best.

"OK, here we go," I said.

"Oh, look," Harrison said, seeing my professional-looking typed list of questions. "A list of questions."

I told him where the question came from: 50 strangers.

"You're kidding."

"No. This is what people want to know. Some of these questions are traditional and boring; some aren't. But they're random, so be warned. There's no cohesiveness to any of this."

"That's my kind of interview."

Already it was better than last time. "OK," I began. "A woman from Nevada wants to know if you were discovered and, if so, by whom?"

"I was never really discovered," said Harrison, who turns 49 next Saturday. "I just kept pressing myself on people until finally Columbia Pictures agreed to give me a contract for a hundred and fifty dollars a week." Then he thought for a moment and added, "Well, if I was ever discovered, I guess it was by Ian Bernard. He was a composer who sent me to the head of casting at Columbia after seeing me in a play in Laguna Beach (Calif.)."

"What were you doing before that?" I asked, expertly. "Is that when you were a carpenter?" (Anyone who's read one of his interviews knows that he was once a carpenter in L.A.)

"No, no, no ... I had little odd jobs. But I went from acting to carpentry, not the other way around."

Then, just to test him, I said: "OK. So if you claim to have been a carpenter, how long is a tenpenny nail?"

"Three inches," he retorted.

I didn't let up: "What are the actual dimensions of a two-by-four?"

He smiled knowingly. "One-and-a-half by three-and-a-half inches."

REGARDING HARRISON

BY
**JEFFREY
ABRAMS**

I asked if he'd ever left a house or hot tub unfinished because he'd gotten an acting job. I was trying to get some dirt here.

Harrison smiled and said, "No, I never abandoned a construction site. What happened was I finished a job and then went off to do *Star Wars*."

"Oh. Like most carpenters."

"Right."

Besides carpentry, one of the most asked-about Harrison Ford subjects is that scar on his chin. More than a few people on the phone wanted to know how he got it, even though Harrison probably has answered this question a million times. But what the heck. I'm here to give the people what they want: "Harrison, how did you get that scar on your chin?"

"Trying to put my seat belt on while going around a blind curve."

"What, you cut your chin on the seat belt?"

"No. There was an accident. ..."

"Ahhh. Car crash."

"Car crash."

One question I got I wouldn't have had the guts to ask myself. But now the onus wasn't on me, so: "Explain your haircut in *Presumed Innocent*."

Harrison laughed so hard, he started coughing. "Never in my life, not since that carpentry shtick became such a prominent part of my story, has one item been such a big deal."

I was trying to find some dirt. Some good, hot gossip. So I asked: "Is there some sort of intrigue behind the stubby, bristly look? Did you cut off your hair in a rage?"

"No," he said, shaking his head. "I was just doing my job as an actor. I was helping describe a character, and that's what I thought he looked like. And people ... people have gone nuts about it. Completely, absolutely nuts."

"Do you listen to critics?" I asked.

"Um ... I read what they say, but I don't necessarily listen to them."

An L.A. man asked (an actor, I bet): "Do you do a lot of research before you shoot a film? And what kind did you do for the Indiana Jones films?"

"Well ... I read archaeological yearbooks, but that's about it. For *Regarding Henry*, I did quite a lot because I didn't know anything about head injury. So we spoke with doctors and surgeons, saw a lot of physical therapy sessions, talked to therapists about the process of recovery ... quite a lot."

Which is true; we all spent months getting to know the subject matter as well as we could. Director Mike Nichols insisted *Regarding Henry* be based in reality. Early on in rehearsal, I

remember Harrison saying: "We've got to be extra careful here ... this is a very delicate subject. Henry can't be a buffoon." And through the course of our research, it was fascinating to watch Harrison develop his portrayal of Henry Turner, a Manhattan lawyer who is wounded

in a robbery, loses his memory and, in regaining it, finds he doesn't much care for the person he was. He took extensive notes, watched videos and conducted interviews with patients and doctors. He finally found a way to make Henry come to life, in a sweet, touching and funny performance.

"What attracted you to the role in *Regarding Henry*?"

"Someone asked you to ask me that?" Harrison wanted to know.

"No," I admitted. "But I thought we should plug the movie."

"Well," he began. "I liked the guy. I thought Henry was an interesting character, very different from anyone I'd played before. I liked his dilemma and thought it was a real good movie. Something I wanted to help make. Anyway, people like a good yarn, don't they? The thing is, I have a hard time describing it, because the description seems to be less intriguing than the actual process, because the movie's full of surprises and twists and turns on a path you might think would be predictable. And there's also a lot of humor, strong emotion."

"Do you think *Regarding Henry* is better than *Casablanca*?"

Harrison laughed. "Well, I never saw *Casablanca*."

"So, in your opinion, it's a much better film."

"As far as I know," Harrison paused. "Go back to your list."

'What's the dumbest thing you've ever done?'

'Oh, boy. There's so much to choose from.'

A man who was asleep when I happened to call him wanted to know your philosophy."

After a moment, Harrison sighed. "I wish I had a glib answer." Then, after some thought: "I don't really have a philosophy ... but I do have a set of attitudes about the way things should be done. I believe people should work very hard and care deeply about what they do."

"The same man had a follow-up question. He wanted to know if there's life after death."

Harrison thought about this for quite some time. Finally, he answered, with a smile. "No." He seemed confident, but it was hard to know if he was telling the truth. Regardless, I went on to the next question, which was from a young girl in San Francisco. She asked Harrison, quite seriously: "How much money do you make?"

Harrison took a sip of tea. "Hundreds and hundreds of dollars."

"So," I followed up, "you're saying that you're a hundredaire."

"Yes, that's correct."

That explained the beautiful house.

"What's the dumbest thing you've ever done?" I asked, channeling an Italian teenager from New York.

"Oh, boy," Harrison moaned. "There's so much to choose from here. ... Wow. I don't even remember. The dumbest thing? We'd better ask Melissa. Let's skip this one for a minute, OK?"

I didn't miss a beat: "Can you sing?"

"Yes. Yes, I can. Very, very badly."

I pushed him a little farther, as a good interviewer should. "So ... would you sing something for me right now? A little ballad?"

"No."

"A Kansas woman wants to know you were in school plays and, if so, do you ever have to dress like a flower?"

"I was never picked for school plays until my junior year of college," Harrison said, referring to his days at Ripon College in Wisconsin. "And, far as I know, there weren't many college plays which required dressing like a flower. But, to go back to your other question, I did sing in them."

"Very, very badly?"

"That's right."

"Someone wants to know if you floss."

"I knew it would come to this," he said, sucking his teeth for a moment. Then, quietly, he revealed, "No, I don't. But I do have my periodontist believing that I do."

"What did you get on your SATs?"

"It wasn't pretty. But I did get into college," he said.

"Where you sang in some plays."

"Hey! Who told you that?"

Someone asked why Harrison chose to live most of the year in Montana. He kindly told her he didn't; he chose Wyoming. But I said that was a good question, and I'd ask him.

"Why did you choose to live in Wyoming?"

"It sort of fit this picture I had in my head that I'd carried around for a long time. A picture of what the American paradise would look like. Woods and streams and stuff like that. Clear mountain air. ... And I actually saw it. Melissa and I were looking for a place to get a second home, and it became our first home."

"To change the subject completely, a veterinarian from Santa Monica, Calif., asked if you're more a dog person or a cat person."

He smiled. "A dog person."

"Which brings me to yet another crucial question: If you could be reincarnated as any animal, what animal would that be?"

At that very moment, Melissa entered the room, carrying Georgia. Malcolm was at her side, holding a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle toy.

"Wanna come see my room?" Malcolm asked me.

Harrison turned to Melissa. "What's the dumbest thing I've ever done?"

Melissa laughed. "Gosh ..."

"I know," Harrison laughed. "It's one of those interviews."

"Wanna come see my room?" Malcolm asked again.

I think I should interrupt here and tell you about the first time I met Malcolm, on the set of *Henry*. We were

Continued on Page 6

Can his new movie top these?

Regarding Henry, about a gunshot victim who rediscovers himself, opens Wednesday. Ford now earns \$10 million-plus per picture, and his movies have sold more tickets at U.S. theaters than any other star's. The top:

<i>Star Wars</i>	\$322 million
<i>Return of the Jedi</i>	263 million
<i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i>	242 million
<i>The Empire Strikes Back</i>	223 million
<i>Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade</i>	195 million
<i>Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom</i>	180 million

Of course, nobody's perfect: *Mosquito Coast* took in a measly \$14.3 million.

Continued from Page 5
filming on a Manhattan street, and Malcolm, then 2, was sitting in his father's chair. Harrison introduced us. "This is Jeffrey," he said. "He wrote this movie." Malcolm looked up at me and nodded. "I like your work," he said.

Melissa touched Harrison's shoulder. "The dumbest thing you ever did was trying to put your seat belt on going around a blind curve."

Harrison nodded. "I think that's probably right."

"What about the animal thing?" I pressed on, not allowing him to avoid any questions.

He looked at Melissa, then at me. "I think maybe ... an eagle?"

Melissa bounced Georgia. "I was going to say some kind of bird."

"Not because they're noble or anything," Harrison said. "But because they hang out in beautiful country and fish all day."

'Here's a good one. If you could change anything about yourself, what would it be?"

Harrison poured us both some more tea and thought about this. I could tell he was taking this question seriously. Finally, he said: "I would change not having any privacy. That's the one major regret I have." He thought for a moment, then said, "Actually, it's not even privacy, it's anonymity. That's even more important. I don't have any. Almost none at all."

"Can I look through your wallet?" I asked.

"No."

Next came quick questions and answers:

Q: Do you have any pet peeves?

A: People who abuse other people.

Q: What was the first movie you ever saw?

A: *Bambi*.

Q: What movie recently made you laugh and cry?

A: *Regarding Henry*.

Q: Good answer.

A: Thank you.

Q: Are you ticklish?

A: Under the right circumstances.

Q: I thought you were going to say under the right arm.

A: That, too.

Q: What is your earliest memory?

A: Being told that I had a little brother born that night.

Q: Wow. How old were you?

A: Eighteen.

Q: How many languages

do you speak?

A: One.

Q: Which one?

A: English.

And, finally, perhaps the most important question of all: "Harrison, do you have 'call-waiting'?"

"No," he replied, smiling.

Malcolm wandered back in. I just continued, business as usual: "Do you know the names of all five Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles?"

"There are only four,"

Malcolm blurted out, de-

stroying my trick question.

"Oh, that's right," I said.

"Of course I do," Harrison said confidently. He thought for a moment. "Leonardo. Raphael. Michaelangelo ... and ... wait ... Donatello."

Malcolm kissed his dad, clearly proud.

At that point I opened the bag I'd brought with me. Inside, among other things, were two important items: a toy fortuneteller Magic-8 Ball — the kind you ask a ques-

tion, then turn over to read the answer; and a fortuneteller fish. The fish, a piece of 3-inch-long red cellophane, curls up when placed on your palm. Then you read the package to determine what its movement means. For example, if only its head moves, you're fickle. If the head and tail move, you're in love. "What's this?" Harrison asked.

"I'm going to find out what you're really like," I said.

"Like no other interviewer has ever attempted," he said. And I carefully took out the fish.

It started to curl up completely.

"It's trying to bite its tail," Harrison said, as the fish nearly went into convulsions.

I read the package: "Curls up entirely ... you are ... passionate."

"Well," Harrison smiled. "We knew that."

Then I gave him the Magic-8 Ball. "OK," I said. "Ask it anything. Anything at all."

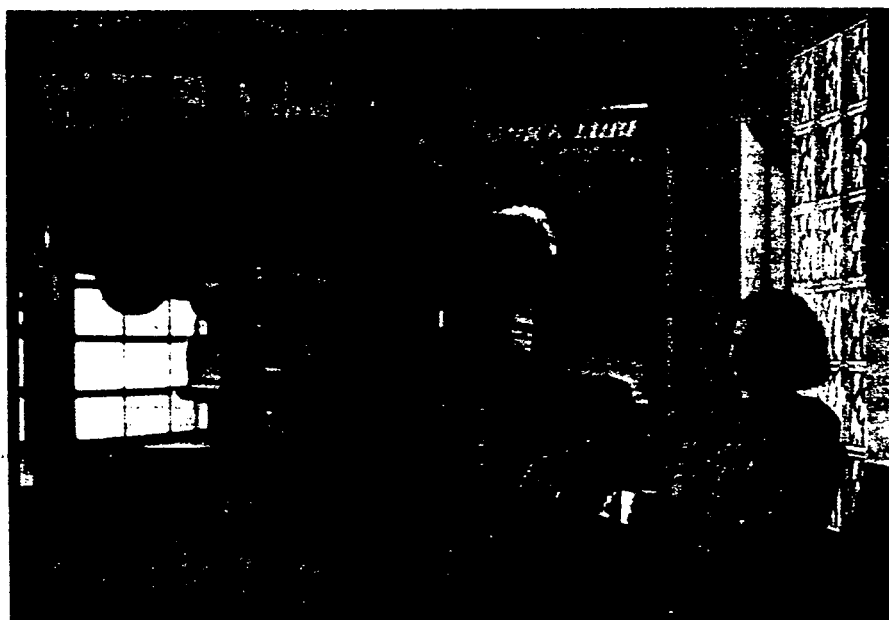
Harrison held the ball for a moment, then closed his eyes. This would be good, I thought. Harrison asked aloud: "Will Jeffrey ever work again?"

My heart sank as he turned the ball over. The answer floated to the top: *Reply hazy, try again*. I grabbed the ball back before he could try.

And finally, my last question, from a woman in Hollywood: "She wants to know if I could print your home address and phone number."

Harrison finished his tea and nodded. "Sure," he said. Then he laughed. "Guess I better get 'call-waiting.'"

Jeffrey Abrams, 25, wrote his first version of "Regarding Henry" while at New York's Sarah Lawrence College. And the answer to Ford's question "Will Jeffrey ever work again?" is in: Abrams' original screenplay "The Rest of Daniel" has been purchased by Warner Bros. for Mel Gibson.



**"Kim's dance class takes about 50 minutes.
Mr. Goodwrench Quick Lube Plus takes less than 29.
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HARD TO KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE: Brent Spiner, who plays an android on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, says fame is tough on the face. It takes more than an hour to apply the gold-laced makeup and contact lenses that transform the actor into Data, a pale, yellow-eyed machine that wants to become a man. Cast members sweat in their form-fitting wool costumes, and Mr. Spiner says he can't even scratch because his hands and face are covered with powder. He uses a kerosene-based cleanser to remove the cosmetics. "I must swallow a gallon of kerosene a week," he said. "One day I suppose they'll find all my organs have been pickled."

Isn't That Special: You've seen the live show, you've seen the reruns, now get ready for "Saturday Night Live" T-shirts, mugs, calendars, games and all the other goodies spewed out when a TV show signs a licensing deal. LucasArts Licensing, a division of LucasArts Entertainment Co., will be the exclusive representatives of "SNL" merchandise. T-shirts and cards are due in the stores by late June, mugs by August and a Blues Brothers computer game later this year. LucasArts has also done the marketing for the "Star Wars" and "Indiana Jones" films.

Luke Skywalker turns (gasp) 40 this year

By Luaine Lee
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

HOLLYWOOD
Boy, it makes you feel old to know that Luke Skywalker will be 40 this year.

Mark Hamill, who portrayed that stalwart youth in the "Star Wars" trilogy, is now the father of three children: 11, 7 and 2.

His life is dominated at the moment by their reactions to the latest toy giveaway at the fast-food chains. He worries about arranging the right permits to add on to his growing Malibu home, and he's an aficionado of Saturday-morning TV.

So much for Hollywood stardom.

Actually, Mark Hamill isn't a star. He's a fan. Talking a mile a minute, he recalls how he tried out for a page's job at CBS at 18, only to sneak into the sound stages to watch Carol Burnett rehearse.

While other youngsters were reading comic books, he was poring over Theater World — though he and his children collect comics now. At 17 he was a classmate of Cindy Williams' at Los Angeles City College, boot camp for show-biz kids.

"We didn't have the dough for USC or UCLA," he says. "At LACC, with \$6 and a pen, you're in."

Mr. Hamill has concentrated on stage work the past few years. He starred in "The Elephant Man," "Amadeus" and recently in "Harrison 'n' Hart" on Broadway. But he's been back on television recently.

A few weeks back, he played an



Mark Hamill

insane costumed villain, the Trickster, on CBS' "The Flash." And Monday night he played a teen-ager again. Well, not exactly. In the ABC movie, "Earth Angel," he portrayed the one-time boyfriend of a school dream-queen who dies in a car crash but returns years later to set things right.

When Mr. Hamill's agent called to pitch the movie, he described it as "Peggy Sue Gets Married" meets "American Graffiti." The actor relates this story in a raspy Bronxian dialect, complete with an imaginary cigar, which he noodles between his fingers.

"I'm saying, 'Well, it sounds high-schooly. It's a terrible thing trying to maintain your dignity in what's basi-

cally an undignified profession," Hamill says.

Copping his first role in "General Hospital" at 18 and moving on to "Star Wars," "Corvette Summer," "The Big Red One" and two more "Star Wars" chapters didn't change him, he says. "Nothing can really change what you are as a person. You might have to assimilate the experience, make practical changes, because now you're more recognizable."

"I loved the spotlight and the limos and all that. But I wouldn't want it all the time. I couldn't live the way Elizabeth Taylor lives. I would have to have a ranch in Montana or have a getaway. I've always thought that must be great for Johnny Carson because he can go to Europe where he can be assaulted to a much lesser degree."

Mr. Hamill has been between jobs before. He was one of seven children, his dad was in the Navy and he'd attended eight different schools by the time he graduated high school. He worked briefly as a copy boy for the Associated Press, as an ice cream vendor, as a janitor, as a dialect tutor and as a waiter.

None of those jobs really prepared him for acting, which he considers leaving every day.

The best part is when you're on the stage and "have the audience in the palm of your hand," he says. The worst part is that you're never quite where you want to be.

"You can't relax and go, 'Ah, now I'm there. This is what I've always wanted.'"

Mr. Hamill's wife, Marilou, is a dental hygienist who wants to concentrate on being a mother now. "But I encourage her to keep her license up," he says. "Actors admire jobs that you can't lose."

SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

L.A. TIMES

COMING ATTRACTIONS

From our "Gee, whiz!" file: The announcement was made Thursday that **Lucasfilm Ltd.**, producer George Lucas' vast movie-making and technological domain, would be merging its fledgling **Games Division** with its **Industrial Light and Magic** special-effects factory. What this means, according to Lucasfilm president Doug Norby, is that we will be seeing a lot more "interactive entertainment environments"—where people go in and are "surrounded by the adventure." In other words, the games people will be creating environments you will be able to walk into—becoming a knight in Arthurian England, for example.

—JOHN VOLAND

Carrie Fisher, the actress-writer, and Madonna, the singer/dancer/entrepreneur-of-her-own-image, have joined forces for the next issue of *Rolling Stone*. Carrie interviews Madonna in a two-part Q&A that is said to be even hotter than the Steven Meisel photo layout on the Blond One that appears in the same issue.

Neither of these dames is famous for being either demure or Victorian in her outlook. Madonna has shown us in "Truth or Dare" that she'll do almost anything on a dare and she also likes telling a lot of what she thinks is "the truth." She has burned up the international press in Cannes, creating a media sensation unlike anything seen in the 44 years the Cannes Film Festival has existed.

Carrie Fisher not only wrote of her drug dependency in "Postcards From the Edge," but she is preparing the screenplay of her second novel "Surrender the Pink." And some are already wondering how this explicit story of a woman's sexuality, marriage and divorce can be put on the screen without getting an NC-17 rating. Obviously, Carrie and Madonna have lots to chat about.

Aside from grilling Madonna, Carrie continues as one of Hollywood's busiest. Her movie, "Soapdish," appears soon. She's working on novel No. 3, "Disillusions of Grandma." And she's now filming "This Is Your Life," directed for the big screen by her pal, another forthright woman, Nora Ephron.

PEOPLE 5-24-91

CARRIE FISHER: WRITE ON

Carrie Fisher recently finished writing the first draft of her next script, *Surrender the Pink*, based on her 1990 novel about a woman obsessed with her ex-husband. Now Warner Bros. has to hire a director.

While Fisher says this script took her less time to write than her first movie script, *Postcards from the Edge*, it wasn't as much fun. "Last time out," she says, "I had [*Postcards* director] Mike Nichols helping me develop the script. This time, with no director, the writing seemed much lonelier."



A Carrie Fisher: Writing solo

L.A. TIMES 3-31

MOVIES



Shatner

Beam Me Up, Again: The original cast of "Star Trek" will be reunited for "Star Trek VI," which is to start production this spring. "VI" will find William Shatner (Capt. Kirk), Leonard Nimoy (Mr. Spock), DeForest Kelley (Dr. McCoy), James Doohan (Scotty), Walter Koenig (Chekov), Nichelle Nichols (Uhura) and George Takei (Sulu) back at their posts, 25 years after they first worked together in the original TV series that took off on NBC in 1966. The new film will be directed by Nicholas Meyer and was written by Meyer and Denny Martin Flynn.

"I don't go out much. By the time dinner is over and the dishes are done, it's time to think about what to do the next day, try to read part of the *New York Times*, watch a little TV. Generally, I go to bed early, because we get up early with the baby."

— Harrison Ford

DALLAS MORNING NEWS

NEXT GENERATION: Gates McFadden, who plays Dr. Beverly Crusher on television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, has given birth to a 9-pound, 5½-ounce boy. James Cleveland McFadden-Talbot was born June 10 at a Los Angeles-area hospital, publicist Shelley Jeffrey said Wednesday. It's the first son for Ms. McFadden and her longtime companion, John C. Talbot.

George Lucas looks to the future with plans for new 'Star Wars' trilogy

Los Angeles Daily News

"Star Wars" is coming back.

George Lucas, creator of the science fiction series and director of the 1977 original, plans to develop and produce a second trilogy of movies from "a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away," according to Lucasfilm

Ltd. spokeswoman Lynne Hale.

"George Lucas said he will do the next trilogy of 'Star Wars,'" Hale said. She did not specify when the first film would be made, but expected the three to be completed over the next five to seven years.

Lucas himself declined an interview request last week.

While Hale said "everything at this stage is speculative," the next Star Wars trilogy is believed to be a "prequel" to the original, which would follow the early adventures of Ben "Obi-Wan" Kenobi, Darth Vader and the child Luke Skywalker.

"George Lucas has an idea of what he wants to do but we are not even pre-production at this stage," Hale said.

Any news of a "Star Wars" movie sparks excitement in Hollywood because it represents "the purest opportunity for a true Hollywood blockbuster," said Paul Bricault, an analyst with Paul Kagan Associates Inc., a Carmel, Calif., research firm.

After all, 1977's "Star Wars" (\$267.4 million), 1980's "The Empire Strikes Back" (\$222.6 million) and 1983's "Return of the Jedi" (\$252.4 million) form the biggest series of movies in Hollywood history. Hale said "Star Wars" will wait until after Lucasfilm completes "other projects already scheduled." That includes television's "The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles," which went into production May 13. The one-hour series is scheduled to premiere on ABC in 1992.

Lucasfilm also has "Red Tails," a movie based on a World War II unit of black fighter pilots, lined up ahead of the Star Wars project.



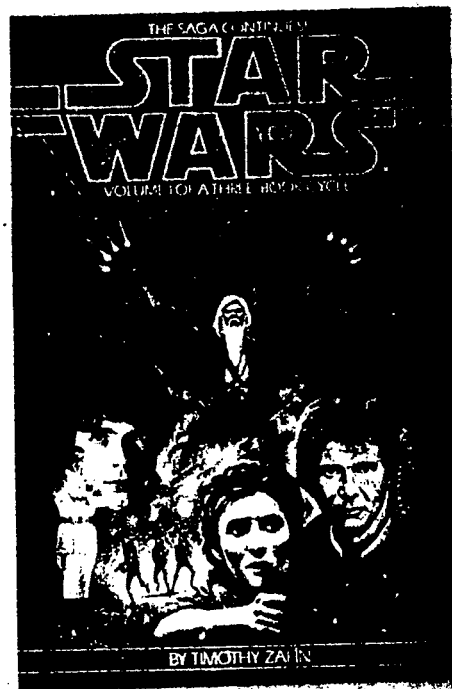
SPOTLIGHT ON:

STAR WARS BOOK 1: HEIR TO THE EMPIRE

by Timothy Zahn

It's been five long years since the Death Star has been destroyed. Leia and Han, now married, have the unenviable task of governing the fledgling Republic that emerges after the defeat of Darth Vader and the Imperial Fleet. And Luke is the beginning of a hoped-for new line of Jedi Knights. Thousands of light years away skirmishes continue against the remnants of the Imperial fleet and the Emperor's last warlord has taken command of the fleet. And now he has made two vital discoveries. Discoveries that can destroy the Rebel Alliance! Fully authorized by George Lucas and Lucasfilm, this is book one in a three part series taking up where the Star Wars trilogy left off! (07327-3) TV & F

HC, 6x9, 320pg.....\$19.50



Lawyer role appeals to Ford

Harrison Ford, who portrayed a lawyer suspected of murder in last year's "Presumed Innocent," says he wasn't looking to wind up back in court in his next screen role.

But he couldn't pass up the chance to play a ruthless attorney who re-evaluates his life after an accident in "Regarding Henry."

"There was such a different tone to the story and the character was so different than 'Presumed Innocent' that he could have been any profession," said Harrison.

Ford, star of the "Indiana Jones"



FORD

films, turns 49 this week.

L.A. TIMES

Quibbles & Bits

... Ivan Reitman goes to the dogs: The producer-director's currently got a pooch comedy in preparation at Universal called "Beethoven." It's not yet cast.

... So what did Harrison Ford look like as a kid—and as a teen-ager? Casting is under way for the title character—ages 8-10 and 16-18—for "The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles." George Lucas exec-produces the ABC series, due to air next year.

... More film to TV: James Coburn, best known for his big-screen roles, will play a spy in an untitled series pilot for ABC. Co-exec producer/writer Chris Abbott calls it "James Bond a fiftysomething."

LOCUS 4-91

Star Wars Sequels

Bantam Books has bought the rights from Lucasfilms to do a sequel trilogy to the *Star Wars* movie trilogy. Timothy Zahn will be the writer; the first volume, *Heir to the Empire*, is finished, and, more importantly, has been approved by Lucasfilms. George Lucas was not directly involved in the approval. The book will be a June 1991 release.

Lucasfilms has no plans to do any more *Star Wars* movies before the end of the century, and then they're planning to do only prequels — no sequels. The sequels will remain as books only.

The rights were offered to a number of publishers. Bantam isn't saying how much they cost. An option for spinoffs, which may prove to be as profitable as the books, was also included.

Bill Cosby: African-American art, Shaker furniture

Douglas Cramer: contemporary masters (Jasper Johns, Frank Stella, Roy Lichtenstein)

Diandra and Michael Douglas: Indian art, furniture

Harrison Ford: late Impressionist (Edouard Vuillard and Pierre Bonnard)

Richard Gere: photography (Henri Cartier-Bresson, Joel Peter Witkin)

David Geffen: contemporary art (David Hockney, Sam Francis, Johns)

Larry Gordon: American Arts and Crafts and early 20th-Century American paintings

Dennis Hopper: Modern and contemporary (Marcel Duchamp, Ed Ruscha, Jean-Michel Basquiat)

Lyn and Norman Lear: contemporary paintings and sculpture (Robert Graham, Robert Rauschenberg)

Madonna: Frida Kahlo paintings, photography (early 20th-Century masters), Pablo Picasso

Steve Martin: Hockney, Franz Kline, Helen Frankenthaler

Daniel Melnick: Emerging and contemporary (Lichtenstein, Ellsworth Kelly)

Jack Nicholson: Impressionist and Modernist paintings and sculpture, Arts and Crafts, Art Nouveau

Michael Ovlitz: Modern (Picasso, Joan Miró, Jean Dubuffet) and contemporary (Lichtenstein), African art

Joel Silver: Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Teco pottery, Arts and Crafts

Steven Spielberg: Norman Rockwell, Disney cels

Sylvester Stallone: Old masters and contemporary art (Francis Bacon, Anselm Kiefer)

Fran and Ray Stark: Impressionist (Claude Monet) and modern paintings and sculpture (Aristide Maillol, Henry Moore), contemporary art

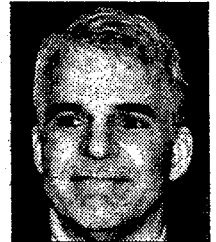
Barbra Streisand: American furniture, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Arts and Crafts



Cosby



Madonna



Martin



Streisand

TV GUIDE

DALLAS MORNING NEWS

HOROSCOPE

Saturday, July 13, 1991

By Joyce Jillson

Today's birthday: Harrison Ford (*Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Presumed Innocent*, *Regarding Henry*) is 49. He and others born on this date find excellent long-term gains this year. Collaborative projects go well this month if you're willing to adjust. Vacation in August — you might meet that someone special. Meet all obligations in September; the rewards will be worth it. October shows the beginning of new trends. November brings love or marriage. You have luck with real estate when you shop around. Expect financial gains in January and March.



May the force be with her

Sorry if this letter seems late, but for the last six weeks I've been on location in Paris. I was saddened to learn of Emily McLaughlin's passing in the pages of your magazine ["Soaps: McLaughlin Remembered," May 25]. One of my first professional jobs was a nine-month run playing opposite her as Nurse Jessie

Brewer's nephew, Kent Murray, on *General Hospital*. She was one of the kindest, most gracious and compassionate people I've ever worked with. I'll miss her always.

Mark Hamill
Malibu, Cal.

'Henry' movingly played by Ford

By JACK GARNER

Gannett News Service

Tragedy turns triumphant in Mike Nichols' "Regarding Henry," a lovely, life-affirming film about a man who's given a second chance at life from a most surprising source: A gunshot wound to the head.

The man is sensitively played by Harrison Ford. And regarding Harrison, the actor continues to grow beyond his undeniable screen presence and likeability, into a performer of impressive emotional range and daring.

"Regarding Henry" is a movie about priorities — ambition, money, status and cynicism versus family, love, goodness and innocence — and about a guy given the chance to realign his priorities after disaster strikes.

Ford plays Henry Turner, a rich, sharply talented but unscrupulous Manhattan attorney. He has a lovely wife Sarah and appealing little daughter Rachel (Mikki Allen), but tends to view both as ornaments in his high-status life, rather than as a family to be nurtured.

One night, after celebrating another courtroom victory, Turner strolls into a corner grocery for a pack of cigarettes, interrupts a robbery in progress, and is immediately shot twice.

As directed by the gifted Mike Nichols, the sequence is one of the most remarkable in the film. In a matter of seconds we see a man whose arrogance won't even allow him to believe he could be shot, and



Special to the Desert Sun

RENEWED FAMILY: Mikki Allen, Annette Bening and Harrison Ford star in "Regarding Henry."

then, in a flash, he is near death, on the sidewalk. It is quick, cold and as unexpected as it is unspectacular, and staged with convincing reality.

It is also the moment when everything changes for Henry Turner, and for his wife, Sarah (Annette Bening). He is in a coma, in intensive care, and doctors believe he might have suffered brain damage, from a loss of blood.

After Henry's return to consciousness, his fight begins at a most basic level — trying to remember his own name, and those of his family and friends, and trying to remember how to talk, and then

Movie review

how to walk, and then, so much more.

But aided by an amusing, smart and affectionate physical therapist (Bill Nunn), Henry begins the struggle.

I know what you're wondering. Is "Regarding Henry" the medical miracle movie of the month? Certainly the Nichols' film shares an emotional affinity and cinematic quality with the best of those stories from "Awakenings" to "Rain Man." But "Regarding Henry" is less about physical injury and recovery than about rearranging our attitudes about what is important in life. It is more a mid-life crisis film, with the questions being forced quickly, without choice, by a serious injury.

The film also offers Ford his best opportunity yet to stretch as an actor, and to demonstrate a rare gentleness and humor and an ability to shift quickly from arrogance to vulnerability. He effectively can play much more than a lovable rogue with a bullwhip.

The reality of Bening's portrayal of Henry's severely tested wife adds weight and substance to "Regarding Henry."

★★★★ (Excellent) "Regarding Henry" opens today at the Town Center Cinema 10 in Palm Desert. Rated PG-13, with profanity and brief violence.

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Lucas, Spielberg for Artists Rights

Film director Elliot Silverstein has been re-elected president and filmmakers George Lucas and Steven Spielberg have been named vice presidents of the Artists Rights Foundation, the group announced Tuesday.

Also elected were directors Gene Reynolds as secretary, Larry Auerbach as treasurer and Fred Zinnemann as first governor.

Former fund-raising executive Keith La Qua also was appointed as

Artists Rights

continued from page 4 —

executive director of the foundation.

"The Artists Rights Foundation aims to raise public awareness and concern about the defacement of cultural heritage," said foundation chairman Arthur Hiller, who was re-elected head of the Directors Guild of America over the weekend. "We will devote our initial resources to clarifying the role of film artists in America."

Hiller said one of the choices the DGA-affiliated group has is to ask courts to examine questions surrounding the true authorship of a work of art and the consequences of that definition according to various treaties signed by the United States.

He said the foundation may choose to seek enforcement of Bern Treaty provisions requiring protection of the author whose work is exhibited in the United States. Congress ratified the international copyright treaty in 1989 without such protection.

Into the Realm of Sigh-Fi

REGARDING HENRY Directed by Mike Nichols; Screenplay by Jeffrey Abrams

By **RICHARD CORLISS**

Nobody has a life anymore, Hollywood tells us, only an afterlife. By now you are familiar with all those transcendental rehab movies—*Ghost* and its spectrally sentimental cousins—in which people return from the void to get a chance to say (What else?) “I love you.” Audiences lose themselves in a teary mixture of awe and *awww* at these wistful fantasies, which now constitute an entire genre: sigh-fi.

comes a new man and determines to right the wrongs he committed in his earlier life. He is like a reformed Scrooge on a very long Christmas Day. He will buy his daughter a puppy and even become that most improbable creature, an honest lawyer.

This is, recall, a fantasy, set in the old-fashioned movie Manhattan that is a beautiful place to be lost in. Nichols, as always, is terrific at suggesting worlds without words. The camera catches a glance from a pretty lawyer at Henry's firm, and we



FRANCIS DUHAMEL

A chance to do it right, from scratch: kindly daughter Allen nurses born-again dad Ford

Regarding Henry, Mike Nichols' effective, infuriating new weepie, works a cunning variation on the born-again theme. It eliminates the middleman, Death, by subjecting Henry Turner (Harrison Ford) to a gunshot wound that erases his memory. *Bang!*, you're a new man. The old one needed some revision. That Henry was a slick Manhattan lawyer who misused his gifts to ruin innocent men and save venal corporations. Instructed by his chic wife (Annette Bening) to apologize to their 11-year-old daughter (Mikki Allen), Henry instead scolds the dear girl in Latin. The guy barely deserves to live, until he gets a chance to do it right, from scratch.

After his injury, Henry must be taught everything over again, from how to walk to who he is. Ford, whose face assumes the agreeable befuddlement of Mortimer Snerd, plays Henry as an eager but slightly backward child. He returns to his posh Fifth Avenue apartment as if he had been consigned to a foster home. But because his teachers are kind and patient, he be-

know in that instant that she has had an affair with the old, nasty Henry. But then the script insists that these epiphanies be spelled out in illuminated capital letters; and Nichols, a jaunty yachtsman of a director, must trawl through treacle. Strings swell at the merest emotion. And—lordy!—dog-reaction shots! By the end, when the pooch trots into a school chapel, you may want the animal to pee on a pew.

We bet that the picture will be a hit—not because it is so smart about many small things but because it is so shameless in promoting its one big thing. Like the other sigh-fi movies, *Regarding Henry* says any mortal catastrophe offers an opportunity to erase the chalkboard mess we have made of our lives. We can make amends and have great sex too. By serving up comfy antidotes to illness and death, these movies provide a seductively meretricious form of release: New Age religion on the cheap. How like Hollywood to insist that the slogging drama of most people's lives is mere fodder for a better, more glamorous sequel. ■

By **MARILYN BECK**

Tribune Media Services

HOLLYWOOD — In the wake of the million-dollar restoration of “*Spartacus*” comes word that preservation work has begun on “*The Searchers*” — the superb 1956 John Ford western starring John Wayne and Natalie Wood.

“Warner’s is trying to restore it in its original Vistavision form — quite an undertaking,” says Martin Scorsese, a leader in the drive among la creme of today’s movie-makers for the salvation of the best of vintage films.

Last year Scorsese, George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, Woody Allen, Sydney Pollack, Robert Redford, Francis Coppola and Stanley Kubrick formed a group “to convince the studios that national treasures were deteriorating in film vaults, and that it was the responsibility of the firms that made the movies to sponsor their restoration.” Since then, says Scorsese, several major Hollywood lots have committed to programs of film restoration — and not a moment too soon, considering that half of the 21,000-plus feature films produced in the U.S. before 1954 have already been lost or deteriorated into unviewable shape.

“We are attempting,” Scorsese says, “to become the bridge between the studios and the nation’s five archivists — The Eastman House, the Library of Congress, the UCLA Film Archives, the Museum of Modern Art and the American Film Institute.”

It is the AFI’s Preservation Fund ‘91 that will benefit from premieres to be staged April 21 in New York and April 23 in Washington, D.C., for Universal’s newly restored and

uncensored version of “*Spartacus*.”

The restoration of the 1960 Stanley Kubrick epic was, says Scorsese, undertaken “just in time.”

Eine Oase der Ruhe

„Krieg der Sterne“

Von HELGESOBIK
1200 Kilometer Mittelmeerstrand, orientalische Geschäftigkeit in den Souks – das ist nur ein Teil Tunesiens. Das nordafrikanische Land hat auch eine stille Seite – die Sahara mit ihren Oasen.

Wenn Sie dieses Abenteuer reizt, machen Sie eine Landrover-Tour. Los geht's bei den großen Hotels an der Küste. 2-Tage-Trip kostet mit Verpflegung und Übernachtung im Berberzelt um 80 Mark. Wer's bequemer haben will, kann per Jet zum Wüstenflughafen der Oase Tozeur durchstarten. Preis: rund 180 Mark.

Erste Station der Jeep-Tour: Matmata. Das Wüsten-dorf hat 3000 Einwohner. Eindrucksvoll die Wohnhöhlen, die die Bewohner früher Jahrhunderte ins weiche Gestein gegraben haben. In zwei dieser Höhlen wurden Hotels und Restaurants eingerichtet – Übernachtung zehn Mark, leukere Riesen-Portion des Nationalgerichts Couscous 6 Mark. Hier, an diesem Ort der Ruhe, hat George Lucas den ersten Teil des Kino-Knüllers „Krieg der Sterne“ gedreht.

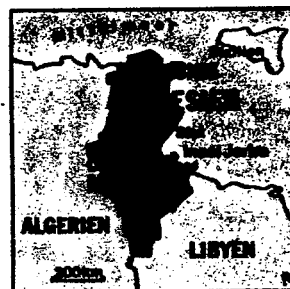
Vier Fahrstunden von den Küstenhotels entfernt die Oase Douz, mit ihren sattgrünen Palmenhainen und den riesigen Sanddünen das „Tor zur Sahara“. Wer will, kann

sich von Dromedaren die Sandberge hinauftragen lassen (halbe Stunde 5 Mark).

Die Tour führt zu dem spätestens seit Karl Mays Kara Ben Nemsı berühmt-berüchtigten Salzsee Schott El Djerid. Im Sommer ist's hier flirrende 50 Grad heiß. Und zur Oase Tozeur mit ihrem „Garten Eden“

aus über 200 000 Dattelpalmen, eine grüne Pracht am Rande der Einöde.

Info: 1 Woche Tunesien-Rundreise in die Wüste bei Neckermann ab/bis München im Mai ab 1197 Mark. 1 Woche Badeurlaub bei jet reisen schon ab 449 Mark. Im Reisebüro buchen.



Die Roboter „C3PO“ und „R2D2“ in der Sahara (oben): Der erste Teil des Kino-Films „Krieg der Sterne“ wurde in der Wüste Tunesiens gedreht, nahe bei der Oase Matmata. Sie liegt im süd tunesischen Bergland, ist mit Bus und Jeep von Gadès aus zu erreichen (siehe Karte links).

Robots "C3PO" and "R2D2" in the Sahara desert (above). The first part of the major motion pic "Star Wars" was filmed in the Tunisian desert, near the Oasis Matmata. It is located in the south Tunisian mountain country and can be reached by bus and jeep from the town of Gadès. (see map on the left).

from the "Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung", April 1991

translations: A. G. Steyn

AN OASIS OF TRANQUILITY

Oasis Matmata. Here is where it started...

S T A R W A R S

=====

by Helge Sobik

1200 kilometers mediterranean beach,
oriental activity in the Souks - that
is but a part of Tunisia. The North
African country also has a tranquil side
- the Sahara with her oases.

If this adventure attracts you, take a
Landrover tour. It starts near the big
hotels on the coast. A 2 days trip,
incl. food and overnight stay in a
nomad's tent costs about 80 DM [ca. 35
US-\$]. Those who want more comfort
can fly with a Jet to the desert air-
strip of the Tozeur Oasis. Price: about
180 DM.

First stop of the Jeep tour: Matmata.
The desert village has a population of
3000. Impressive: The dugouts which
ancient inhabitants have carved into the
soft rock formations. In two of these
dugouts hotels and restaurants have been
set up - overnight stay 10 DM, tasty
giant portions of the national dish
Couscous 6 DM. Here, in this place of
tranquility, did George Lucas shoot the
first part of the smash hit movie
Star Wars.

Four hours drive away from the coastline
hotels is the Oasis Douz, with its lus-
cious green palmgroves and the giant sand
dunes: the gate to the Sahara desert.
Those who want can take a Dromedar ride
up the sandy mountains ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr. = 5 DM).

The tour takes you to the (ever since
Karl May's book "Kara Ben Nemsi") famous-
infamous salt lake Schott El Djerid. In
summer temperatures here reach a flimme-
ring 50 °C. And to the Oasis of Tozeur
with its "Garden of Eden" of over 200 000
date palms - green splendor on the
brink of the vastness.

Infos: 1 week Tunisia round-trip into
the desert (with Neckermann Travels)
w. flight from/to Munich: in May 1991
= from 1197 DM up. 1 week vacations on
the beach (Jet Travels) from 449 DM on
up. See your travel agency.

ZINE REVIEW: SOUTHERN ENCLAVE

L.A. TIMES

ENDLESS STORIES

Good News for All You Wookies

Remember those other two trilogies of "Star Wars" films that George Lucas was going to do, three episodes before "Star Wars" and three after "Return of the Jedi"? Well, Lucas remains mum on their prospects, but sources in the publishing world assure us that the stories are at least on the way. Bantam Books is about to spring the first book in a new trilogy of "Star Wars" hardback novels that are based on the creations of Lucas and being published with his blessing.

"Heir to the Empire," due out in June, will pick up where "Return of the Jedi" left off, and will be followed in the next three years by two other novels written by science-fiction author Timothy Zahn.

Lou Aronica, vice president and publisher for Mass Market Paperbacks at Bantam, was the force behind the new books. "I'd written George Lucas a letter in late 1988 introducing Bantam and Spectra [major publishers of sci-

ence fiction and fantasy] to lay out a number of publishing ideas I had," Aronica said. "I got a call back in September, 1989, saying they were interested."

Aronica says that after the release of the three novels, LucasArts and Bantam will discuss further publishing ventures. At this point, a series of children's books is also planned.

The three novels may represent the start of a major revival of "Star Wars" marketing that some believe will culminate in the 1997

release of a new "Star Wars" film, timed to the 20th anniversary of the original. —Sue Martin

Southern Enclave e' una tra le poche (per quello che ne sappiamo forse l'unica) letterzine dedicata a STAR WARS. Esce trimestralmente, e' composta in media da 40 pagine e raccoglie di volta in volta le lettere, i disegni e le notizie dei fans americani.

A un fan italiano puo' sembrare insolita l'atmosfera che pervade le lettere di commento dei fans, tipicamente americane, cioe' vivaci, informali, e pronte a parlare e discutere amichevolmente anche tra sconosciuti: la comune passione per la Saga e' garanzia di amicizia.

Tutte le lettere inviate dai fans vengono raccolte in "Da un certo punto di vista", la rubrica che costituisce il corpo vero e proprio della zine (20 pagine circa). Il resto e' occupato dall'editoriale, dall'articolo di testa e da "Mos Eisley Market place", la rubrica che raccoglie gli annunci, le recensioni delle zine disponibili, ecc.

Dal punto di vista di un fan straniero l'interesse per Southern Enclave e' molto peculiare. Esso offre uno spaccato interessantissimo della situazione di SW negli Stati Uniti: e' insostituibile per conoscere meglio i fans d'oltreoceano e per imparare ad apprezzarli. Per chi invece ha un approccio alla Saga prevalentemente "filmico" ed e' alla ricerca principalmente di informazioni sui film, sugli effetti speciali o sui cast e' ovvio che ne trovera' in quantita' minore (sebbene mi senta in dovere di evidenziare che quelle informazioni che i fans segnalano e discutono sono piuttosto interessanti e insolite).

In conclusione Southern Enclave puo' risultare un'aggiunta interessante alla propria collezione di pubblicazioni, ma soprattutto una presenza insostituibile per chi si interessa al fandom americano, che permette spesso di stringere nuove amicizie.

from:

"BILD", June 5th, 1991

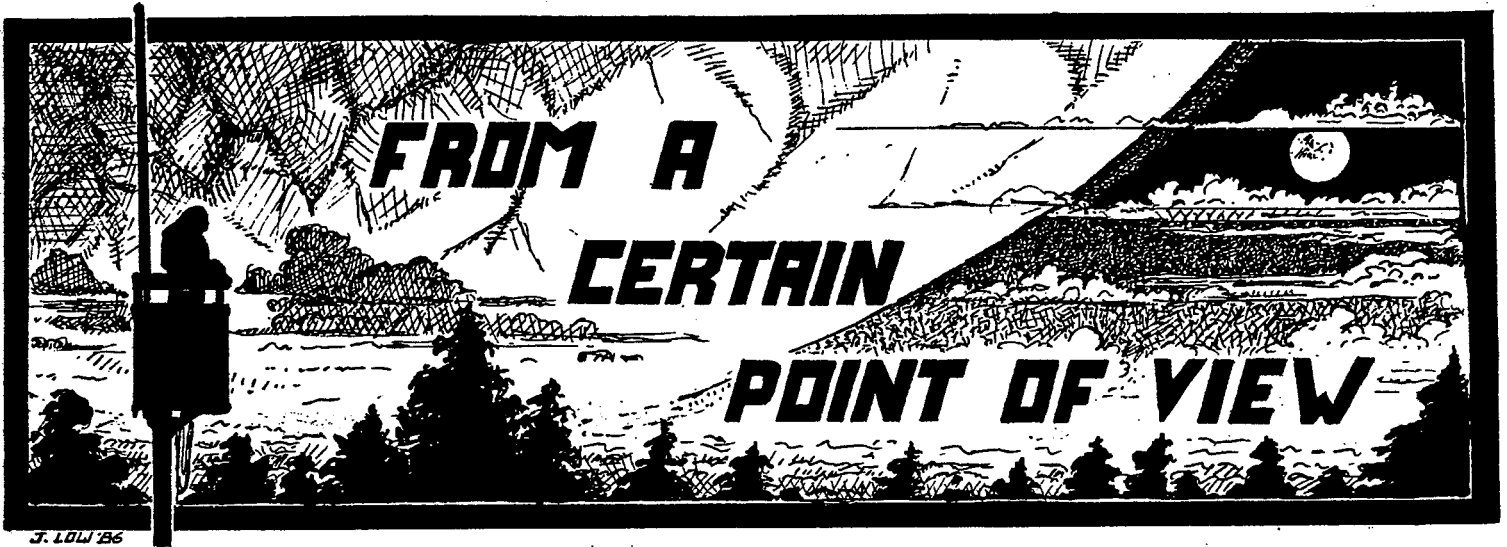
STAR WARS new

New York - Hollywood producer George Lucas wants to film nine further episodes of STAR WARS. Planned first are three eps that show how the space adventure began.

(There's a typing error in the article: Prozudent instead of Produzent... but we know what is meant...)

„Krieg der Sterne“ neu

New York - Hollywood-Produzent George Lucas will neun weitere Folgen vom „Krieg der Sterne“ drehen. Geplant sind zunächst drei Teile, die erklären, wie das Weltraum-Abenteuer begann.



Z. P. Florian
6214 Waterway Drive
Falls Church, VA 22044

April 7, 1991

Issue 28 was a delightful big one! (I hope I can restrain myself, and keep this LoC short — so much to answer!)

First, thanks for the "How to Do a Zine" article. I needed it. For years now, I was considering doing something with my Anakin story, but I felt humiliated by the color-cover, beautifully done zines. No more. I am ready to sell.

And now, on to the letters.

Debbie Kittle: I don't know about 3PO, but I think he was lying when he said he knew nothing of Leia. He was quite ready to accept Owen and Luke as his new masters: apparently, he was not programmed to be independent, like Artoo, the feisty computer hacker.

Chris Graham: Boy, did I laugh! Luke's daughters, Benette and Darthina! But you forgot the youngest, Palpatwinky!

Jacqueline Taero: Yeah, a lending library for original stories! All it takes is to write a little ad in SE and you're off.

Marti Schuller: About "Missing." I did not disagree with the torture. I loved it, on all levels. It was masterfully written. I still wonder where the magnificent and horrible details came from. Tank and Jared are excellent characters. And yes, this is a Luke of ANH, a naive and untutored rebel. I just hate to see him beg. Of course, we are all free to explore every conceivable situation. Again, I loved the story and read it at least six

times.

Maggie Nowakowska: Great theory on the generals! And the explanations for Luke's development (taking saber into tree, not taking saber to throne room) were magnificent. Thanks for sharing the Italian language formal/informal stuff. As I am a Hungarian, here is what Hungarians would do: Han talks informal to Chewie, Lando and Luke, but formal to Kenobi (age difference) and Leia (unless she talked informal to him first!). 3PO would talk formal to all, except R2. Luke would talk formal to Owen, Beru, Kenobi, Yoda, Vader, Leia (until she encourages him to do otherwise), he could even talk to Han formal at the beginning, till they become friends. Kenobi and Yoda might talk to Luke informal-friendly, Vader might do the same, informal-cold. Palpatine could address Luke informal, which, in his case, would show open contempt. Would Luke address Palpatine informal, that would be a very daring insult, suggesting that they are equals. However, Luke addressing Vader informal on Endor would clearly show that he had accepted him as his father. You know, I just realized, how difficult it would be to navigate in this whole mess.

About Luke's future: Carol Hines-Stroede has a grand story called "And He Is Us", that puts Luke right where he belongs after ROTJ! (A 'must' for Vader fans.)

Matthew Whitney: An Italian friend of mine asked me in her letter, who killed Laura Palmer. I had to ask some ten people to learn, who the heck Laura Palmer was, until the eleventh finally knew her. So, cheer up.

Mary Urhausen: You are going to hate me for it, but I am one of those fan writers who

still wait for your answer! I wrote some six letters to you and Samia, asking whether you'd need contributions for WC and if yes, long or short ones, etc. Since I got no answers, I assumed this was a polite way to let me know that my stories are (waaah! that hurts!) lousy. Thank the Maker, other people restored my ego (now that was a bruisy-mendy experience), but if you treated other writers the same way, WC will be short of material for sure. I am really sorry, but I had to say this.

Cheryl Pryor: What can "ordinary" fen do? You are keeping the rest of us alive! What more could you do? Multiply!!

Tim Blaes: Yeah, let Luke open a pizza parlor and flip the dough with the Force! You have a horrible imagination, man...

Tina Bentrup: Thanks for the great ideas on how the Alliance thinks of Luke—brilliant but unreliable...there is a story in this. Will you write it, or could I borrow the idea? I loved your insight into Vader, as a professional daredevil of philosophy! And, really, what was the official story on Anakin's death? Was Ben really telling everyone the same whopper he told Luke?

I think I said enough.

One last question: Anyone know what happened to the DAGOBAH that was supposed to come out sometime, like now?

Another last question: An exercise in philosophy. Close your eyes and consider the possibility of Luke/Han falling in love with or just lusting after a Huttese beauty. Okay, now tell me, why would a handsome male Hutt, like Jabba, be interested in a skinny human like Leia?

Thanks for doing so much for fandom. TREMOR and SE both stand out like flags on the battlefield, where we all fight against the vast army of tired routines, time, and Lucas' indifference.

Fly casual and take care...



Sally Syrjala
PO Box 149
Centerville, MA 02632

April 8, 1991

As to why there are not more new zines, I think part of the reason might be the expectations of perfection which exist. Too, there are the actual logistics. How do you produce a zine? You have to have an eye for the illustrations and how to fit them within the story. You have to juggle different types of stories so that you have a mix and one does not start to sound just like the one before it. Then you sit back and wait for those reactions. Maybe you could have gotten away with a ditto or a mimeo production a decade or so ago, but what would the reaction be to such a thing today?

Agreed, fandom should be fun. However, you know that when you create a fanzine, you are putting yourself up for criticism of gigantic degrees. You want to put out the best possible package. The fear of what is going to be said about it does cause people to think twice. Though, I am happy just to have stories to read. It's nice to have them in a professional looking package, but that is not the main point. The central issue should be keeping the flame lit by providing a continuing source of fuel for the imagination via new fanzine offerings.

It would be nice to have ideas that none else have thought of, but how possible is that? There are many different ways of looking at a thing and one story can be told many different times and be different each time by focusing on a different viewpoint each time.

Another reason that new fanzines aren't coming out so much anymore could be a simple financial problem. You quoted the price for the latest TREMOR IN THE FORCE. It takes a lot of faith to go out on a limb for that kind of debt. It also takes seed money to get the thing going. Today's economy is not all that great. I know that I am making only 60% of the salary I made the same time last year. The bills are still there. It just takes a bit of creativity in managing it all.

Too, time could very well be a factor. A lot of us are in the space of our lives where we are supposed to be in the peak earning years

with job responsibilities to match, as well as family responsibilities. These things take time. Time that might not be there for zine production.

Too, just because a story has been told once doesn't mean that it should never be written in a different context ever again. After all, Romeo and Juliet is just another boy-girl love story. Yet it is a classic. There is an appetite for certain types of stories that never seems to be satisfied. Take the "romance" novels on the stands. If you have read one of these novels, you have read every other one. There is a formula that must be used or else the story will not get published. I don't mind seeing people write the same scene twenty different ways. You get to see things in it that you might not have seen from your point of view.

I enjoy reading background stories on how Han became what he is. Where did he acquire that scoundrel's mask behind which he hides so well? How did he come to be honored by attaining the Corellian Blood Stripe and precisely what does it symbolize? Like Strider in THE LORD OF THE RINGS, Han got a chance to survey the cosmos in his roving days. What lessons did he learn to have him come to live by the Star Trek motto of IDIC (Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations)?

Han has a richly textured background. He is not just some hoodlum who doesn't know how to speak or how to conduct himself. He does know proper grammar and proper conduct. He has chosen to cast that persona aside. Why? What happened to him that he came to see the hypocrisy behind so many lofty stands? His facade is his way of rebelling against a system. In this case, he was a rebel way before he hooked up with Obi-Wan and crew. His form of rebellion was no less legitimate, just different from the organized brand of Leia and her compatriots. His was the type of the individual taking a stand in the only way he knew how against that which he considered to be less than ideal. The Empire engaged in sanctioned piracy on a state level. Han simply decided to take this on a more personal level and to direct his actions against the powerful authoritarian figures and on the side of those who were not part of the system.

A story on how he came to change to accept

those who were espousing a cause would be a good story. Not just showing him one minute going his merry Robin Hood way and the next being a part of the system, but a good examination of why he came to trust these people and what they were about.

Leia: We can all have burn-out. Think of Leia and how she must be tiring of the war. She has lost her homeworld and her family. She has seen friends killed. There are no pure angels in war. What has she seen of those in the rebel units who have lost sight of the ideals for which they are fighting and have taken on the guise of those whom they oppose? Doesn't she really at times just want to get away from it all? Doesn't she have times when she doubts the meaning and the usefulness of all that she has done and sacrificed for the Rebellion? Doesn't she ever wish for the "simple" life she used to lead when she could simply be Leia and not have to represent a symbol for the grand cause?

Is this the main reason Han and Leia fell in love with each other? Each knew the mask they were wearing and recognized the same mask in the other? Were they the only people who could see the reality of the other? To the rest of the universe, an illusion was presented, but only between the two of them could reality exist without pretense.

ROTJ was not my favorite film. It was my least favorite film of the SW trilogy so far made. That might also be a point in not stirring up new insightful ideas. The inspiration was not there for me. The things I would have liked to have seen in this film were not there.

It was too cold and mechanical a piece for me. Everytime something of a human nature appeared in the film and I started to get interested, it ended as quickly as it started and we were back to high tech again. I would like to see more of the human side of things without that cold high tech noid jumping into the picture to try to cut out the humanity.

Too, if you can write action/adventure, this is a theme that can be carried out into infinity. You just have to vary the setting and the details. If a piece like this is written well, I could read its variations forever and a day.

Think of the type of reading we choose. It is most likely of a special like-minded sort:

mystery, whatever. We read that same type of thing over and over again. Mysteries are like prose crossword puzzles and I could read a new one every day (if the time were there). I can also read baseball fiction forever and a day. Yet it is basically the same from story to story. So, I don't think that the "it's been told before" line necessarily makes a story something that shouldn't be printed. If it is well written and told from someone looking at the scene from a different tilt of the kaleidoscope, I think it's great.

I do hope for a resurgence of fanfiction. I don't even particularly care if it's novel or not. However, it would be nice if somehow the price of the zines could be kept at a level where a person could afford to purchase more than one, because you can't stop at just one!

Do take care and many, many thanks for helping to keep SW fandom alive and in contact with each other.

For now...Peace.

Mary Sue to the Rescue!

Donna Frayser
3008 E. Tacoma
Broken Arrow, OK 74014

April 10, 1991

Your point was well taken in #27. How to get SW fandom out of the rut?

Mary Sue to the rescue!

Only she can save us now. ROTJ resolved so many dilemmas that writers who remain strictly Canonical will be pretty limited. A judicious use of created characters is probably the most viable option.

A Mary Sue who is well-written can be a great lead character. Look how many novels in mainstream literature are autobiographical or semi-autobiographical. And look how many people have enjoyed Dorothy L. Sayers' novels over the last 60 years. Lord Peter Wimsey's Harriet Vane was as blatant as you can get when it comes to putting yourself into the story. And the Wimsleys are still being reprinted every

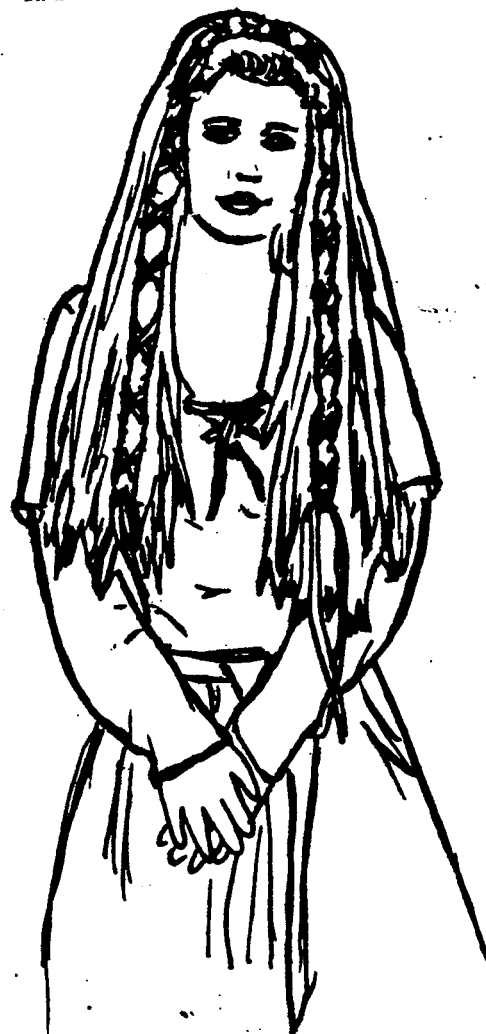
few years.

A created character can be anything, do anything—even die. The possibilities are endless. Of course, they can be excruciatingly bad, too.

But I have fond memories of Cori Beckett, Trav Leggatt, Maeve Solo, and many others too numerous to mention here. SW has produced some classic created characters and there's always room for more.

One of my all-time favorite stories was "Bitter Pills", a haunting tale of a very minor Rebel trying to deal with the pain of a lover who's an MIA. (Help! I unwisely lent out the zine and can't remember its title, or the author.)

Any of you out there who have stories centered around your own characters, please consider submitting them. I bet most zine eds would take the story on its merits. And I know I'd like to read them—and I bet many others would, too.



Debbie Kittle
11521 Idlewood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906

May 18, 1991

There are a few things to get to before I address the letters. The first thing is (you won't be able to tell the difference but Cheree will): I entered the world of computers. I just purchased one in March and I just don't know how I got along without one. Why did I ever think typewriters would do a good job?! We've gotten real close over the last few weeks and I wouldn't trade this baby in for anything. My brother-in-law also input a program so that when I want something, all I do is press #1 for Wordperfect, etc. He's made it easy for me. He titled the program "Debbie Kittle's Personal R2 Unit." I love it. Now my R2 and I can plunge into the world of SE and beyond. Also, the top of it resembles the top of Vader's helmet.

I purchased the SW film trilogy video gift pack. The cheapest I had found it was for \$40 but when I went to the Price Club (it's a warehouse where you can buy in bulk) to look for a printer for my R2, there it was for \$38. I couldn't pass it up. \$2 is \$2. I would also like to take a few lines and salute the Price Club. I've gone in there more than a dozen times since they opened last year and every single time (but one), they've been playing TESB on the big screen TVs. The next time I have more time, I'm going to find the person who is responsible for it and tell them they are doing a great job. *[[Ed: Find out if they're a Star Wars fan and introduce them to fandom!]]*

Anyone else have a lousy winter? Major disappointment! The last snowfall here was on March 30th, Saturday morning. I was walking the dogs (I'm senior vet tech at an animal hospital) as I do every Saturday morning and it was just blowing and coming down full force but it was too warm to stay on the ground and stopped after a few hours. That was the only thing that could cheer me up so early on a Saturday morning. I hope December comes real soon!

I watched Mark Hamill in THE FLASH TV show both times and it was good to see him back.

I think I liked the second one better than the first one but both were pretty good. Those tights were very interesting! I enjoyed them but what a far cry from "Luke" or any other character—very wild and crazy.

Z.P.: I loved your "What If's". It is going to take some time for these stories and others to trickle down to us. I'd love to help put together a zine. I thought it would be fascinating and a lot of fun as well as a lot of hard work. But before another zine gets started, let's make sure that the ones we have out now are not allowed to die. Especially WC.

Chris: Welcome back. In answer to General/Obi-Wan: I believe Obi-Wan is his Jedi title but he is given the rank of general in the Clone Wars. I'm sure not everyone fighting this war was Jedi so it was given to him to perhaps put the others at ease and/or in keeping with military tradition of having generals, lieutenants, etc.

I loved the term "buisie/mendie".

I tried to read the lines on DV's panel but could discern nothing. There is the possibility that it could say anything. I picked up the latest issue of ST:TNG magazine and they had an article in there about the person who is the scenic art supervisor and on one panel he listed 18 safety instructions. The print was too small for the TV audience to read but he had printed up 18 off-the-wall sayings. Some of them were from the Jim Croce song "Bad Bad Leroy Brown" such as "Don't tug on Superman's cape."

Jacqueline: I'm sorry you feel that all of your original work must remain on a shelf and not used to benefit the SW fencircle. I can't speak for everyone but I'd love to read them. I know that I'm working on a killer-length story and just came up with an outline for another one that I haven't seen touched on, so I'm looking forward to finding the time to sit down and get it on disk.

Ten years ago more people were staying home and had the time to write, but now a lot more people have to work to make the extra money to pay for things like a new computer system. I work 6 days a week and every other Sunday. For my vacation this year, I'll be staying home and probably working on my stories instead of going somewhere else exciting.

It would seem that after quickly glancing

through this issue of SE that there are quite a few who would love to read about the Others and not just the Big 3. It sounds like fandom is changing a little of their attitude. I know I never thought along those lines. I couldn't afford to go to the conventions.

I hope that after any neofen have read your letter, they are not discouraged about sending in any story they might have.

You and the others have touched on some very good "story possibilities" and I look forward to seeing them come into print. Time, unfortunately, is not something we all have as a luxury. I hope that someday you'll change your mind and gift us with some of your other work because I have enjoyed what I have read of yours in the past.

Marti: I agree with you about the new fan coming in and doing a story that's new to him/her that we've read a hundred times. I do know we should keep that in mind. Who knows, they might come up with a new twist. If we discourage too much, we might send the fan off into another fandom altogether. I usually don't mind reading anything (even if I've read it 20 times before) as long as it's well done.

Have you gotten "Jedi Honor"? Hope you enjoyed it if you did. If you can't find it in the local bookstore, I walked into one of the smaller comic book stores and found myself confronted by 3 other books that I had not even known had been published in RPG. That might be another avenue for those wanting to collect them.

Maggie: I agree with you about the Jedi and the Republican Fleet.

I started looking through my old stuff and found two interviews with HF. The first is from BANTHA TRACKS, Autumn 1979. When asked about his part in SW, what did he think of that and the film, his reply: "I thought it was a real good part—the character was humorous, and I thought that those things that weren't exactly funny in the script, probably would be—I thought it was going to be funny. I didn't think it was going to have such a wide audience; it was just a good part for me. I never tried to judge whether this was going to be successful or whether people would like it. For me, it was a simple opportunity to play a character that I knew the audience would like. It was the first time a character I had played

was so important to the film. It was necessary for me—so, that opens up a kind of atmosphere, a good environment for collaboration."

He went on later to describe his work on TESB, saying the first one was a cakewalk. "The relationships become more significant, the points that need to be brought across become more subtle. The first time a great deal of energy was expended to establish a context for a relatively small story—heavily plotted, really articulately contrived, very fast moving with lots and lots of information, and all kinds of things having to be established. It took a lot of energy and a lot of time, but the second time you come back, all of that is done for you. You can pretty much think that everyone who will see the second one, has seen the first one. So they know who they are dealing with and you just walk on and start doing the story. But I think it had to be a lot more interesting than the first one, because people were aware of who you were and what you were doing, they got a chance to look at you a little closer. You had to bear up under the scrutiny. It had to be more complex. The characteristics had to be more complex. I felt a sense of responsibility for making it better. I mean you get a chance to do it over again—the only reason to do it is to do it better. My part was more interesting this time, so I enjoyed myself a lot more this time. The first time was a lot of fun, but this time I enjoyed the work, even though it was more difficult."

The second interview is in THE HARRISON FORD STORY by Alan MacKenzie. "And for me, at least, it was obvious what the relationship would be, simply by looking at the others. It was apparent the characters were very contemporary and the situation very simple—without meaning that in a derogatory way. It was simply straight forward, a clear human story. I mean, I didn't have to act science fiction."

Matthew: I have picked up the comic adaptation of DRAGONFLIGHT. It wasn't bad. I'm very picky about the way dragons are drawn and a few times I cringed, but for the most part, well done.

I was going through some old newspapers at work and discovered that at the end of March at a children's park theater not more than ten minutes from my house was a play put on by a local group. It was DRAGONSLINGER and Anne

McCaffrey paid a visit for one of the performances. I could just shoot myself! I would've loved to see the play and a chance to see/meet her. I found the article in mid-April so totally missed it. I'm hoping they'll at least put it back on so I can go see it.

Re: Yoda testing Luke's resolve—I never considered it a calculated move at all. Maybe this is too simplistic but I just thought Yoda was warning Luke that he would be able to see things and not to panic.

Gian Paolo: I can't believe they shortened the ride! I'm hoping to hit it in Florida, maybe in 1994. This year I'm staying home. Next year, I'm going to MWC if I have to high-jack a plane. In 1993, my sister and I want to go to Fanfair in Nashville, so hopefully in 1994 I'll get to go South.

Cheryl: I've been getting the flyers for that toy show but they usually fall on a Saturday and I work most of the day—it's one of our busiest. If it fell on a Sunday, I'd go. Even if the prices were very outrageous, it would still be nice to just look.

Tim: I found a couple of "lightblades" at a large craft store several years ago. They are flashlights with a long clear plastic tube about 18 inches long. When I bought them, I didn't look closely enough and only one works. The other lacks the whole bulb and connections to make it work. If I only understood basic mechanical stuff...

Well, here's my recommendation for a story to read. It was in *LEGENDS OF LIGHT* #1 by Ruel T. Hernandez. It's called "Interrupted Journey". It's a Boba Fett story, where he is pulled off course after taking Han from Bespin and is blackmailed into helping the leader of the planet get something he wants very badly. A really good story and available from the Corellian Archives.

There certainly were a lot of letters in last issue. I hope everyone had a good time at MediaWest. Cheree, could you print the address for more information on MWC? Thanks. Til next SE, fly casual! [*Ed: For info on MediaWest, SASE Lori Chapek-Carlton, 200 E. Thomas St., Lansing, MI 48906.*]

Judith Yuenger
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May 29, 1991

Having arrived home from MediaWest, I figured I'd better put this on paper before the mundane world takes over again!

This was my first con and how best to describe it? Mad chaos—fun fun fun—a pen pal meeting place—all apply plus much much more. If you haven't attended one, DO SO! Start saving now—it's worth it!

For me, one of the best things about this con was meeting people that I had only written to or heard about or read their stories or seen their art. The other best thing was the friendliness of the people. Most people that I met treated me as though they had known me for a long time. Because I smoke and my roommates didn't, I would sit out in the hallway and smoke and I was amazed at how many people would stop and chat for awhile—most of whom I didn't know and never even found out who they were.

I am sure that there are several writers and artists out there who think that I am simple minded or spaced out as I would go all glassy-eyed because meeting them sent flashes through my mind. Cypher, for instance, whom I wanted to hug and kiss for her super stories of John Book and Martin Riggs (she probably would have slugged me with her blaster if I had!). Everytime I looked at Wanda Lybarger, Rebecca Carey, and Laura Virgil, a veritable kaleidoscope of terrific illos would reel off in my head. There were so many others (and I apologize to those I miss)—Barbara Anderson, Samia Martz, Mary Jean Holmes, Kathy Agel, Mark and Melea Fisher, Anne Huizenga (who came to our room and was flattered that I had a list of the stuff that she'd written that I'd read—I have lists for ALL writers of SW), and our bubbly editor, Cheree (what can I possibly say about her that you all don't already know—she's super!). (*Ed: Gee, Judy, I'm blushing! But "bubbly"? I've never been called that before. Bubble-headed, maybe...*) Then there was Carolyn Golledge. I picked her up at the airport and we went out to dinner several times and had LOTS to talk about. Sure wish she lived closer (and, yes, Carolyn, you do still

have an Aussie accent!). And then there's my roommate, Ming Wathne—instead of thinking Ming the Merciless, think of Ming the Whirlwind, Ming the Rabblrouser, Ming the Indefatigable, Ming of the Colorful Costumes, and last but not least Ming the Super Friend!

As I'm sure you can see, I had a good time. However, there were dark sides to all of this. The separation in the SW groups was one. I talked to writers who bemoaned the fact that they didn't know where to submit their stuff or, worse yet, had submitted it but then NEVER heard from the editor. I listened to editors bemoaning that they needed stories and art desperately. I listened to fans complaining that they didn't KNOW when SW zines were put out because there was NO advertising. I don't believe that SW is dying because of a lack of story material but rather because of a lack of coordinated effort and communications. Since I already had a list of SW zines and stories (I KNOW I'm nuts because I love to do that sort of thing!), Ming forced, ah, suggested that I take on the job and kept calling me The Galactic Coordinator. I think that it would be a good idea to have a central place that is able to disseminate information to both old and new fen. However, to make it work, I am going to need a LOT of help. Instead of mumbling and moaning and groaning, this is your chance to get off your duff and help. I need names and addresses of writers, artists, fans, zines, clubs, etc. I have already been promised some help from Cheree, Pat Grunenwald of the Forces of the Empire club, and Mark and Melea Fisher.

I also would like to take a minute to talk about the SW Awards. The Fan Q doesn't seem to have much for SW—they only had one category this year—Best SW Newsletter (and a BIG congratulations to our editor on winning it!). As a fan, this disturbs me because I'd like to see editors, writers, artists, etc. get at least a little recognition for their work. If you were at the SW meeting at MediaWest, hopefully you got a copy of the SW Questionnaire. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE fill it out and mail it back to me NOW!! If you didn't, drop me a postcard with your name and address and I'll be happy to send you one. ((Ed: Or see the copy reprinted elsewhere in this issue.)) I also need tons and tons of help with compiling the list of zines, artists, writers, etc.,

especially in the Multi-Media zines category. It is awfully difficult to purchase EVERY MM zine. If you have MM zines printed in 1990 and 1991, please note the name of the zine, the editor, print date, story (or poem, illo, etc.) and send it to me. Right before I mailed this, I received two questionnaires back—thank you, Cheryl Pryor and Pat Grunenwald!

I am really good with statistics and making lists but really lousy at thinking up names for things. Anyone got a name for the SW Awards? So far, suggestions have been Jedi Medals, Lightsaber Awards, Corellian Merits of Achievement Awards, and Alderaani Awards. What do you think? Pat Grunenwald gave me several for the SW information center and I liked one of them — Star Wars Fandom File. So, unless somebody comes up with a better one fast, that's what it will be.

I am willing to do the bulk of the work but can't do it all alone, so like Uncle Sam, I NEED YOU!!!

((Ed: I love the name "Star Wars Fandom File." Count my vote for that one. I have a suggestion for the award itself: STAR AWARDS, a play on the words Star Wars. It's also generic, so no particular group feels slighted. Let's hear some more suggestions or send them straight to Judy!))

Force Users

Matthew Whitney
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June 3, 1991

HEIR TO THE EMPIRE is out in both novel and audio tape. I gave the tape a listen first, as I had to hear how Denis Lawson did with it. Unfortunately, I don't give it high marks but, let me qualify that. It was my first book tape of something I'd not read already. Also, since I can't listen to a tape while doing something

else—lest it distract me—I listen while lying down. Well, combine those with the unseasonably hot May we had, you'll find me dozing off midway through each tape. Did it not hold my interest or was I hot and groggy? By next ish, I'll have read the book and re-listened to the tape and will be able to give it a fairer appraisal.

Debbie Kittle: In ANH's classic trooper-bops-his-noggin scene, the line, "See to him," probably refers to one of the dead officers left behind by the gang from when they'd first taken over that control center.

On why 3PO didn't recognize Leia's hologram, I've explained it as 3PO had a programmed security block to prevent him from giving out info on the Princess. Or maybe he knew she was on board the blockade runner, but had never met her? A combination of the two?

Open question: Is the Light Side GOOD or just the absence of BAD? Would that make it more neutral than positive or negative? Or is there positive, negative, and neutral sides/aspects of the Force? Darksiders could have been in this neutral ground before getting drawn into the Dark, eliminating the fall from the "light". How about these four stages in the Force?

Passive: Non-Force-users. Their life auras are part of the Force, but they are not consciously aware of it.

Neutral: Jedi-in-Training. Open to the Force, but limited in their ability to harness it to their will. On their way to determining their ultimate path (Luke in TESB).

Light: Jedi. Able to bend the Force to their will, channeling it toward constructive goals.

Dark: Vader/Emperors. Same as Jedi, but their goals are destructive.

Could also the Lightsiders use the Force in manner where power/life energy is augmented, while Darksiders drain the energy from others to build themselves up? (And I bet Jedi are all recyclers, while Dark and Palpatine ask for extra plastic bags for their groceries).

Chris Graham: Re: "Ents of SW". Gasp! Don't tell me you've not read Tolkien. The Ents are a race of tree-beings. Living, walking, talking trees. They keep to themselves and are a thoughtful, contemplative race. Slow to anger, but when they are finally moved to involve

themselves in the conflict with evil, they are unstoppable. Because of his size, and the tree connection, I've often thought of Chewbacca as a sort of rebel Ent. (Rebel because he deals with outsiders to his race.)

About Alderaan having shorter life spans (than us), thus Leia possibly being "middle aged" in the Senate: I go by the duck philosophy. Looks, talks, walks, etc., like a duck — then it's a duck. If an "alien" is human looking, they have all our characteristics, unless we're told specifically otherwise. If you add, say, pointy ears, then the door is open for them to have subtle differences. I beefed about ST:ING's Guinan for a long time. The only alien aspect of her was her choice in hats, until "Yesterday's Enterprise" came along and gave her something distinctly alien. If you start considering differences between human-looking races without facts to go on, there'd be nothing you could predict. The majority of beings are humanoid because of the budgetary problems of making human actors appear alien, but they also give us compatible models to identify with. If we're not grounded with basic human qualities for the characters who appear human, then the sky's the limit for what you could postulate for them. So, I'd not buy the line of thinking that Leia's really middle-aged.

On why Ben & Yoda had never been sniffed out by the Force, the strongest factor on their side is that it's a big galaxy. Assuming a range limit on Force sensing, one must almost be right on top of someone before they sense each other. Note when Darth first sensed something in the bay of the first Death Star—and when Luke sensed he was endangering the mission while flying past Vader's ship in ROTJ. Yoda might be shielding his entire planet. According to TESB's novelization, p. 87, "The planet was uncharted and virtually unknown." Ben, I am assuming, kept his powers switched off or at a low level. Using the Force (anywhere but Dagobah—if it is shielded) could be like sending up a flare. If you aren't actively using it, though, you'd just blend in with the rest of the life forms in the galaxy—until someone got close enough to recognize your individual pattern.

Tina Bentrup: Re: Ian McDiarmid returning to his Emperor role. In wading through all

those back issues to catch up, you must've missed my mention of that a few issues ago. (Heck, ya can't digest everything, right?) Pleased to meet another lucky soul who's seen DRAGONSLAYER! That's one of my all-time favorites. I did see GORKY PARK, but it didn't impress me. Rather slow, but I'm not a big political thriller fan.

Digressing to a few other topics before I close, how's this for a movie-going experience: On May 24, 1991, I saw the 1925 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (with Lon Chaney, a restored print that included a color sequence, and live organ accompanist). It was for the occasion of the Centennial Celebration—yes, you read that right, 100 years—of the Academy of Music theater in Northampton, MA. The organist was an 85 year old gent, and he did a marvelous job. Amazing experience!

Did any of the PERN fans get the graphic novel (part 1) of DRAGONFLIGHT? A bit disappointing. The art was fair and it was scanty on the story. They got the bare bones of the plot, but that's about all. Sigh.

CNN reported the old Lucas-is-planning-additional-SW-films-at-some-unspecified-date story today. I wonder why they'd be talking about that on this particular date?

Keep Sky Walking...



Catherine Churko
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May 4, 1991

Hello and Happy Greening, Flowering, Glorious Spring to all the SE family. Enjoying the end of an achingly blue sky day (the kind that gets almost a haze of purple tinge to it, so that green trees practically vibrate against it even beyond their natural brilliant shimmering). Spring really takes hold here around this time.

I hope everyone is well or returning to a healthier state of being. I hope no one had friends or relatives in the tornado hit areas nor any of the farther flung lands were where the weather and earth have been in great unrest. And a safe and speedy return to any of yours still stationed in the Persian Gulf.

Cheree: Katy looks so lovely and sparkly. Dianne S. looks adorably neat-o in her pony cart. Mary, your trio looks great (the Zen of Horsetending?). Carolyn, don't you and "Han" look great together! Z.P.: Your Luke doll costume looks wonderful, even if I can't make out all the detailing; looks quite spiffy. (I'm too impatient in the area of sewing to have learned much. Still, I love designing clothes and accessories and SF really lets me play. My mom is the master seamstress in our family.)

May 30—So much for my grand head start (sigh). While I was 1/3 the way through, my borrowed typerwriter went kaput. Then two days later, my Dad fainted, hit his head and good eye (they're okay). Our apartment is long with strange acoustics, so my Mom thought I was making noise while getting ready to leave the house. She found him trying to get up and I found them trying to walk him back to bed so we could call an ambulance. After a battery of tests, they tenuously say something about a speeding heartbeat or funny pace, so he's on medication and they'll check him in a few weeks. But two days later, after sitting in Emergency until he got a room, he complained of shoulder pain. Turned out he had fractured his shoulder so after a week he was operated on for that. Please send some good thoughts his way. He was in for two weeks and is home

now.

We guess he tried to break his fall and that's how he got the fracture. In my case, I was wide-eyed and yelling as I tried to counter an ice slip and instead fell harder or more extended physically. I smacked my left shoulder on the street curb (I was crossing the street). After being helped and gotten to a nearby hospital, it turned out I had lightly fractured my left shoulder. (It could have been worse but it was shocking and upsetting.)

Luckily, my parents were able to take care of me physically when I needed it (hey, I can now open my own window again for the spring breeze), and financially since I couldn't get compensation. I am healing well (this happened in the very tail-end of February); now can get my arm about shoulder height without assistance and have about 50% of my upper arm strength. My physiotherapists are happy (and I'm learning (?) new levels of patience).

Trying to decipher the notes I made with right hand is "amusing." All Luke Fans: Humor the artist. Since I found SWzines I have always drawn Luke in his Jedi "regimentals". I love the way he looks in them but sometimes I'd like to try different Jedi type-tunic/shirt/pants combinations or even "regular" clothes. I was reading the SW comics years before I found SWzinedom and they often did just that after ROTJ. I used to do it in my pre-fandom art but switched. Would there be any big objections by you readers of zines out there? (This is an important question for an illustrator; don't laugh.)

Z.P.: Oh, I do agree that Luke has high suffering value as well. Liked your "what ifs". Re #10: How did you get the six months—from the novel? (I don't remember.) Since I was "raised" on the comic between TESB and ROTJ, were they trying to track Han down and having Imperial skirmishes and trouble besides Luke's worries? I'm used to a longer time frame, even if the comics are not "canon."

Debbie K.: Hi. Sorry to have repeated the question. My mom saw the northern lights in NYC when she was a kid sleeping on the rooftop in summer. It was that middle-latitude drift occasion when sunspots are at their most active. (We're in one now but maybe NYC is too light polluted to see them now.) So, the sun never set or just dipped under the horizon and

came back up? Oh, weird—neat.

Liked your 3PO questions. To me, he has two major "conflicting" aspects. (I'm a droid supporter but not everything 3PO kvetches about is tied to that.) I think he was protecting Leia re the holovid Luke accidentally activates. I think they know they are going to find/be in contact with Kenobi; they may not know that Ben is then going to go and hook up with Luke until after they find Kenobi. (And if you want to read a most interesting exchange between Luke and R2, check "High Flight" by Diane Duane in GUARDIAN 6.)

Chris G.: Welcome back. J-Troop?! Hee-hee, that could make a fun farce!

Maggie: Ciao. Sounds like Jabba goes back a bit, whether totally before the Purge as an adult, I don't know. Maybe he's also one of the longer-lived species. I've never quite thought of the Jedi as "galactic cops", per se. Perhaps a planetary system or sector could ask Jedi's to step in, in some way if there was a particularly pernicious pirate or gangster.

Thanks so much for all the old interviews. Do you think GL's comments on "the other" make it more cryptic? If Vader/Anakin is the "other" as I assumed from Anakin's return, what would account for his prequel remarks and "after the third film"? Does he mean (cough, cough) numbers 7-9? (Yeah, sure.) Glad you found "the mothers" quote, too! I always remembered that one, since I did want to see more women in the films and she was certainly pivotal. And what/who would the "bad mother" be about? Liked your senator questions, too. Hope the trip went well!

Matthew: That thought about hibernation (in the carbonite) slowing down and therefore Force Talent made a lot of sense. Also, I thought it was a general remark on Yoda's part about Seeing. But, yes, maybe it was a calculated remark. What if Yoda saw certain things or several variables, if he got Luke who could have been a partial focal point of events to see the same or similar events? Could it have been like trying to get a "force fix" on an unseen/hazy future? The more vantage points, Seeing the better description? Hey, what if Yoda had been doing just that and Luke didn't see his friends in pain? (Oh, I'm so excited, I actually came up with a decent "what if" question!) Would something already have hap-

pened to alter events Yoda saw originally? Or some decision/action Luke was about to take or do soon? Liked your Empire/Alliance strategy points.

Gian Paolo: Gratz! (did I get that right?) for your SWzine art suggestions. As you can see from my past few months, my artistic schedule has been slowed down/set back so it will be a whole lot longer until I send stuff out, especially since I have upcoming commitments to several USA editors already. Hope your Italcon went well!

Mary: I'm still new enough to not have gotten "enough" of the main characters (though I even have a semi-controversial opinion/genuine question on that, that I will mention later) but as I've said, I want to see them interact with all manner of interesting new people/beings and in new places/worlds, situations, etc. That's one way of keeping things interesting.

Hmm...that was an interesting comment about Vader. He does not sound overwhelmingly shocked at the appearance of a Force-user over the trench. Of course, the Emperor is a Force user but maybe there are others.

Cheryl: Howdy. Did you make it to Media-West? Do you know anything more about the supposed SW 3-issue limited comic book by Marvel?

Judith and Tim: Hope things are better with both your mons!

Tina: Another set of exciting alternate ROTJ ending stories that have Palpie in them is Patricia D'Orazio's "Sword of Darkness, Sword of Light" in KESSEL RUN #4 and "Sword of Sorrow, Sword of Hope" (the second part of the story) in FAR REALMS #9. Unfortunately, Trisha left SW fandom around '88-ish so she never finished the next two intended installments of the story (Arg!). She's another really fine writer.

Your personal story of "That Face" was very moving/insightful. I reacted badly/still do visually to Anakin's initial sight (still like Humpty Dumpty—it's that funny lighting setup. But his (SS) voice is also rich and wonderful (so it complements JEJ's voice well) and drew me in. And he looks great when he fades in, smiling in joy over Luke's and friends' triumphs and his own release into the Lightside. I do my Anakin based on that.

Jacqueline/All: Your comments brought out

empathy, interest but also a bit of ire in me. I empathize with your unhappiness/frustration over the reception of your "type" of storytelling in SW fandom; not finding the latitude you thought would be there and, worse, having some quarters tear you to mincemeat. No, that is not the way to encourage fannish camaraderie or inspire creativity. (One of the first zines I ever read in late 1986 was CONTRABAND. And one of its editors (Letitia Wells) talked about the viciousness of some editors and LoCers (no names) and egotrips, etc., to warn those considering submitting stuff. Even though they were talking about writers, I as an artist who was just discovering SWzinedom and wanting to submit samples/work "gulped" and did it anyway.

Imperials? As of MWC '89 (my last), they were still around and partaking in informal and formal panels/discussions. ((Ed: *Those interested in things Imperial should contact Pat Grunenwald, FORCES OF THE EMPIRE, 4374 Okemos Road, B-204, Okemos, MI 48864.*))

As to zines/inflation...yes, most things have risen in cost across the board, so your point is valid. But some things, like color covers are expensive beyond the general up trend. And perhaps the computerized items fall into that category, too. As a professional graphic designer (former) and artist, I do look for good production values. I will certainly buy something less polished if I find the stories look interesting or are by my favorite authors. I can enjoy art that is less polished technically as long as I can feel "energy" in it. But I do gravitate to well-done art. I have bought stuff almost solely for the illos.

I also have bought smaller zines (40-100+) pages when I saw and liked them at MWC, but there were not many around. Lisa and HIBERNATION SICKNESS materialized after my income started dematerializing! But after that silly (hee hee) ad in last SE, hopefully I'll get to check it out when things get better.

I think I got upset because my work/money state has been rocky since the year after I discovered SWzinedom at the end of 1986. I want to stay a SW illoer, but it's been a struggle for me since '89. I did 9 illos (1/4 to full size) in my first year (1987). In 1988, I did 13—4 full page, 9 oversized. In 1989, two. In 90, one. I love it but it isn't my only% artistic passion/pursuit. But surely,

more than just one a year—sigh—hopefully more like 4 or 6 a year!

And from mid-'83 (after ROTJ) to mid-late '86, I had spontaneously started doing SW illo-stories after an illoing hiatus/block. In three years, I did 14 small projects, 12 big projects, and one super big project. These were from small to 7x10 in. sketches, large 14x18 drawings and "oversized" 10x15 penciled and inked comic-style pieces. All done after a full-time day job, but without any knowledge of Swzinedom. I worked hard and luckily had friends who loved SF, ST and SW and deeply supported me. (A lot of my old stuff is unprintable because the stories include Marvel's created characters.) But what if I wanted to contribute my illo/stories?

I am an artist first. I do my stories in visual form. I'm still learning how to do narrative. I sometimes can't complete a story logically. But I can no longer do pages and pages of highly polished comic-style pages timewise because I work rather slowly. Is there a place for visually-oriented illo/comic style stories in SWzinedom? And would you (editors and readers) accept more sketchily done art? (And I continue occasionally to practice writing only to do some of that some day after I've done more art.)

I can't quite agree re your "golden age" creativity angle. I've read dynamic, inventive, funny and moving stories from '85-onward zines.

I don't have that much zine history/scope but I have liked alternate universes from TESB and ROTJ as well as "canon" stories. (Look at my storylist.) As for alter egos/Mary Sues, I've liked some. I thought a Mary Sue was just a projected love interest for one of the main characters. That was fine to me, as long as they weren't dumb, "traditional" or did illogical heroics/romance. (That turned out to be closer to the traditional MS definition.) Unless it was good satire (I liked that) to spoof the full-blown MS style.

How many Han-lusters dumped Leia and substituted their own characters or really altered Leia's independence to suit themselves? I don't mind other lovers for Han but I like Leia as she is and see them together). How many Han fen who liked Leia just as she was had hours of fun writing up romantic scenes for the

feisty twosome, and "slipped into" Leia's character?

But Luke lusters? We have complexities. "Our" guy doesn't get an official love interest to slip into character with. (A big quibble with GL by me. I don't care what old mythic structures are or conscious/unconscious "moral/religious" promptings of today's society.) (Opinionated on this, isn't she? You betcha!)

Some folk went ahead and did their own characters anyway (good!). But for those who did not, could one reason Luke is so "doom and gloomy" (if Jacqueline's theories on the disappearing Mary Sue/alter ego apply) is that some writers have substituted mental/philosophical empathic comfort ("mind" hurt/comfort—poor baby, don't worry so, etc.) for romantic involvement? (Hey, I like friendship/intelligence/passion in one package—don't get me wrong.) I don't think that's so far fetched.

A genuine question for The Writers: You tell me your favorite (and other) characters come "alive" (and sometimes get "stubborn"). Why can't you write about them on and off "forever"? If you like them so much, aren't they kind of like old friends? For sure, friendships get boring if they stay/do the same things ad nauseum. That's where new adventure and new people enter. And sure, go ahead and create and have adventures with new friends. But, do you also leave your old friends if you still respect and enjoy each other? Geeze, I know it sounds weird...this is a 2-1/2 dimensional thing vs. real life but I'm interested in how these complex characters become boring to a writer.

Mustn't forget to say that Marvel comics made Luke all anguished about his ability to teach the Force (it turned out later they were under plot restrictions) for issue after issue post-ROTJ.

Out of space. Huzzahs and Luck for the New Zines! Have a wonderful summer! (Winter in the southern hemisphere. Who's going to see the total eclipse on July 11?) Force be with you!



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May 15, 1991

Just a short one to get a few things off my chest in the midst of exams and last-minute paper writing.

Z.P.: You said you thought Vader "helped defeat the Jedi by hiring the immune Huttese slugs to 'hunt down and kill' the Knights." Are you suggesting that Jabba's enormity is a sign of his opulence, and that other Hutts are small? Because Jabba doesn't look very mobile; depends on how you conceive "hunt down", I guess. Just wanted to clear this up, because it's a fascinating point.

Debbie K.: About Threepio—it says in SKYWALKING, p. 183, mm pbk. ed.), "As a protocol robot (sic), C-3PO is programmed not to reveal classified information, which explains his apparent ignorance of Princess Leia's hologram message."

By the way, does anyone know what Anthony Daniels is up to these days?

Tim: Please, please, please tell me why, if Japanese is one's native language, that person has a higher chance of being left-handed?

All: How was MediaWest?

There were so many interesting points in SE#28 that I feel like cheating by commenting on so little, but my brain is carbon-frozen at the moment, with little hope of reprieve. Until next time, then...walk the sky.

Tally keeper



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June 11, 1991

Oops! Sorry this is so late, Cheree. I hope I've squeaked in at the end. By now, MWC is past and I trust all who were able to attend had a joyous time. Like everyone else by now, I've read and heard the news from Father George promising a new trilogy, prelude, within the next seven years. Though a true Missourian ("Show Me" State, you know), I confess to more than a little optimism at last. No longer an active member of the Lucasfilm Fan Club, I've not heard of "Red Tails" before, but it sounds suspiciously—or am I just being too hopeful?—like "Blue Harvest". Anyone know more?

By now I'm sure everyone's read Zahn's HEIR TO THE EMPIRE—PART ONE. While something vague remains unsatisfied within me, overall I enjoyed the book. I'll reserve further comment until I see how the rest of you react. The cover was wonderful, though.

Well, I'd best get to the last issue before my stamina totally collapses. (I've been working my first full time job in several years and find my energy levels by eventide severely depleted.)

Mary Urhausen and Cheree Cargill: Your lead-off article on "How to Do a Zine" was interesting and enlightening even to someone like myself who has no intentions of tackling such a project. (I'm not masochistic or 100% certifiable yet.) I've always admired and deeply appreciated those courageous (?) enough to undertake editing a zine, but the understanding your article provided has elevated my respect even higher. Certainly your expert guidelines should be required reading for those wishing to publish their own zines. Bravo! And thanks for providing all the authors, artists and readers with your products. You deserve more credit than you're too often not given.

Cheree: Your daughter just grows lovelier. How proud you must be. A heartbreaker, for sure. I really enjoy the photos you manage to put in SE. The one of Carolyn Golledge and Ken Keisel was hilarious and oh so appropriate. Dianne Smith and her pony cart was adorable.

Is that a Shetland? As for Mary Urhausen's "babies", they are gorgeous. I look forward to seeing some photos from MWC '91, hopefully.

Z. P. Florian: I like your story possibilities and idea for a new zine. Let us know how you're progressing and I'll search my files for anything I may be able to contribute.

I also agree with your reply to Sarah Cohen that Jedi probably grasp new languages or dialects more easily than non-Jedi.

As for the Lars' connection to Ben, I can't quote the source (though others doubtfully will), but I believe it's in one of the novelizations that Owen and Ben are brothers. ((Ed: *I believe this was stated in the novelization of RETURN OF THE JEDI.*))

Afraid I'd disagree about the Hutts being used by Vader and/or the Emperor to hunt the old Jedi. The Hutts seem to be too slow and ungainly to achieve such a feat and being immune to "mind tricks" didn't exactly aid Jabba against the latent Force-boosted strength Leia used to kill him. I prefer the idea of the Sith as allies for that task, later disposed of themselves as too great a threat. Hence, Vader's title of last Lord of the Sith.

Thanks for your best wishes.

Debbie Kittle: I couldn't agree more with you as to why 3PO was left out of the full details of Han's rescue. Loveable as "Goldenrod" is, he's a definite liability at times and best employed by others. As for that bit over whether 3PO knows Leia or not from ANH, I've always been bugged by that myself. He doesn't seem the type to protect her identity from one he believes to be a new master.

Thanks for understanding my sentiments over Leia's voiced reactions to the Falcon.

I appreciate your warm thoughts for my family and I sincerely send my best wishes for your grandmother.

Your Alaskan adventure still sounds wonderful, though I found your comment of Anchorage's "very warm" temps of "70-75" confusing. Perhaps for Anchorage is what you meant since I hardly call that very warm. Maryland has warmer summers, doesn't it? You see, we're sweltering here with temps around 90-95 degrees and humidity of 55 to 80%!

Chris Graham: I've always felt Palpatine was born evil. While this doesn't translate to my feelings for "real life", it fits well

into fantasy. IMO, I also feel Obi-Wan is a first name, not a title, but I've never heard of a definitive source from Lucas that confirms or denies this. Also, IMO, I believe Dagobah is merely Yoda's adopted planet.

Like you, I distinctly heard the Ewoks speak our slang, but wasn't it fun?

Maggie Nowakowska: I'd presume that if pirates or gangsters were causing interplanetary difficulties or planetary distress to the degree that a cry for aid went out, the Jedi would've become involved.

Congrats on your fan guest status in Italy. I'm eagerly awaiting news of your experience. Hope it was fabulous.

Okay, I'm far from expert (and frankly in my present exhausted state, barely coherent), but I'll tackle Campbell and your question as best I can. I know that I wrote, and still occasionally do, reflective/depressed Luke stories because I believe Luke would have difficulty adjusting immediately post-JEDI to all the knowledge he gained so hastily—his father's identity and death, his sibling status to Leia, the reality of and responsibility as the last Jedi, etc. Certainly given time, he would find the strength to come to terms with even so much (surely not all at once), Luke would be capable of laughter and commitment. Perhaps we write about our favorite in more somber terms as intriguing as external ones, moving on to light material only after we've exorcised our own needs to answer our own doubts. Does that make sense?

Matthew Whitney: Okay, you got me. Why can't you see a vampire's clothes in a mirror? Very good question!

Cheryl Pryor: To partially answer your query of what average fans can do to keep SW alive, I'd say introduce others to fandom. I've been surprised how many people enjoy talking SW once they learn I'm a fan, yet are ignorant of fandom. I'd also strongly urge you to send LoCs to zines, letterzines, artists, etc. After all, comments are the manna we hunger for, even if it's sometimes a bit hard to swallow.

Tim Blaes: I think Luke's side trips were accepted as the eccentricities of his being Jedi. Perhaps rumors existed that all Jedi were a strange lot, given to pursuing their own goals without explanation.

As for Anakin Skywalker's "death" being bit news, I'd disagree. How many heroes of WW2, Korea and Vietnam were there? How many have you heard of passing recently? News tends to concentrate on the present moment with only fleeting references to the past. Perhaps Anakin's heroism was not that spectacular.

Catherine Churko: Thanks for your kind words about my stories "Descending Darkness" and "The Legend." I'm glad you liked them and appreciate your recommendations.

That about covers this issue except for a few last comments about updating news on the personal front. I guess I was wrong about fans preferring main story characters over secondary ones, at least as far as SE readers seem to go.

Re your comment, Cheree, on recycling. I too use brown bags to store newspapers for easy carrying to recycle bins. Unfortunately, I've found no outlet here for those wire hangers such as you have. My husband gets his work uniforms weekly so each month we acquire 20 pants hangers and 20 shirt hangers, all wire. As for Christmas trees, they make great crappie beds. Our local parks dept. accepts them and distributes them to our various lakes. Anyone else heard of this? ((Ed: I have. And the local dry cleaning chain that was accepting the hangers has now stopped. So, my closets are filling up with wire hangers! I'm considering sacking them up and donating them to Good Will or some local charity.))

I have to say that I absolutely LOVE the idea of your doing thumbnail bios on SE members. What a great idea! Please consider redoing this soon. It'd be a great way to further our knowledge of one another and strengthen our SE bonds.

A brief personal update for all those who sent kind thoughts my way. My father's cancer appears at this time to be miraculously in total remission. Even his doctors are stunned. Though we're all too aware that this status could change momentarily, it's eased our immediate anxiety and lightened our times together. Thank you to all of you for your being there.

I must close here or this definitely won't make issue #29. Enjoy the summer and here's to a new trilogy--may the rumors be true! Peace.

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June 16, 1991

Hi, everyone!

Well, MediaWest is over with this year and, as some of you know, it was both enjoyable and frustrating. It was great to meet and see many of my friends, it was the pits leaving the con with a case of the 24 hour flu that has lasted 3 weeks, which as you can picture, has made everything late-late-late.

Since I do not want this letter to turn into the Encyclopædia Britannica, I will try and keep it mostly to con-related things and other outside items this time rather than putting in my 2 cents on last issue's comments, so here it is.

The newspaper comics reprints is a beautiful set of books. Way over-priced, but well done, an addition to any library if you can stand the \$150 cost.

George has finally said it! There will be another set of pictures. The question is, can he pull it off again, or is he so locked into the juvenile aspects that he cannot see his audience has changed somewhat? Yes, we all like action-adventure, but we need a bit more story content this time. Even small children can pick holes in weak stories now.

We were all sorry to see WOOKIEE COMMODE put on hiatus; we all love that zine. There are three new zines out now--my own BRIGHT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE, Z. P. Florian's ANAKIN, and Deborah Smith's CHRONICLES OF THE HOUSE OF ALDERAAN, so the void is at least partially filled.

Now to the meat of the things heard at MediaWest!! The big problem seems to be communication! communication! communication! Time and again, you hear editors complaining about the inability to get stories, no one seems interested. On the other hand, you hear authors say they write and write and get no response, and I know exactly what that means as I have been in that position.

It is about time we all recognized exactly what is happening to the zine world. Some producers and sellers are almost verging into the real commercial aspects in both writing and

selling, and as far as that goes, it is okay, but as Cheree says, if you are using other people's characters, you better not be making money, if you write or publish.

I will be stepping on a lot of toes with this but it has to be said; even the IRS recognizes that letters must be responded to in a reasonable amount of time. Putting off responses for days, weeks or months, especially if a SASE is involved, is **ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE!** I have heard every excuse in the book and have been in the positions outlined by most of them and I know it can be hard, but it is **ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE** not to respond to SASEs in a reasonable time! It takes less time to write 3 words at the bottom of a letter and pop it into a SASE than it does to put a tape into the VCR or get a cup of coffee. In our local paper, we have a section on good manners; the author puts it very bluntly. The only reason for not responding to a communication in a reasonable time is a death in the family, preferably your own!

Another aspect of the editor problem, is an editor advertising to get stories, art, etc., then never producing or taking forever (sometimes 4-6 years) to start on a zine. Come on, guys, if you are not willing to give up 16 showings of RAIDERS or the weekend at the beach, stay away from zine producing. It is not fair to authors and artists to tie up their work that way.

Again, another aspect...and this I admit is a personal thing. I am totally against pre-deposits. Up until now, I have not said anything on this because I did not have any experience to fall back on. I did not know personally about costs, etc. I do now and I still feel that pre-deposits are a no-no. If you do not have the money to put out your zine, don't do it! Wait and save until you do! There have been too many unhappy experiences on pre-deposits that were never returned when a zine did not come out, or that were simply absconded with.

Well, enough for editor trouncing. Now for the authors, artists, etc. If you tell an editor you will do a piece, look at your timeframe and **DO IT!** Remember, editors have to read and edit. That is their job. Don't put off your work until the last minute. Editors need time to edit and I admit this is a problem I must

wrestle with and I am working on it. If it looks like you cannot live up to a commitment, give your editor enough time to find a replacement, especially if your material is a long story or an art portfolio. Remember, an editor's job is to edit. If you do not want your material edited, I agree with Ann Wortham—do your own zine!

Most zine editors are thoughtful, reasonable people, but if you have trouble with English, try to get help before you submit your stories, articles, etc. If you cannot, inform your editor ahead of time, and try and give them plenty of time to review and edit. Written English can be incredibly complex to persons educated in foreign languages and for many of us who for one reason or another have difficulty with English construction.

Well, if anyone is still speaking to me, this is some of what I heard at the con and this is not the first time.

Another difficulty is PO Box numbers. Given the problems with the post office today, if you do not have a house address, make it possible for people to find your phone number. You would be surprised at the number of problems that can be unscrambled with a phone call.

Well, as you can see, from what I hear we have a big problem in fandom communication. If we don't do something and we want fanzines to survive and not become another footnote, we have to do something—LoC, write, and COMMUNICATE!

Will write more next time and more on time. Let me hear from you and, people, let's COMMUNICATE!



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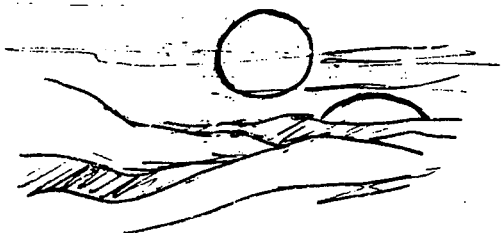
June 10, 1991

Hooray! My SW world has expanded once again! After meeting fans through the mail and MediaWest*Con, also after reading some issues of SE, I finally got up the nerve to put my two cents worth in. (I'm sorry I missed the SE get-together at MWC. I got sidetracked; an easy thing to do with so much going on at one con.) What really struck a chord with me was Jacqueline Taero's letter in SE#28 about new fans bringing in new ideas to SW fandom. The question she asked was, in a nutshell: "Is it that entry into an established fandom is simply too intimidating?"

In my case (or should I say, opinion), I loudly shout, "Hell, yeah!" Like Ms. Taero, I do remember Cori Beckett with fondness, along with some other outstanding and well written stories. But, after reading them, I'd say, "How can I write that well?" If that's the kind of stuff editors accept—forget it. My meager attempts at any literary form won't stand a chance. Also, the LoCs can be nerve-wracking, too. I had my papers graded and picked apart in English classes—I don't need that experience again! Don't get me wrong—I'm not implying that SW fans are snobby, but after establishing such high quality—you're a tough act to follow. (I did write a few LoCs, so there's hope for me yet.) Thank you for letting me finally express this view somewhere in SW fandom. It's been bugging me for a while. So, take heart; there are some shy fans out there. We just need a dose of nerve, encouragement, and motivation to get out there and be heard.

One last question: What did everyone think of HEIR TO THE EMPIRE? I thought it wasn't bad, but it could've been better.

Thank you again for making SE possible. I also like the SE t-shirts. Good idea! Well, I've said my piece so I'll sign off.



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Here we go again. SE#28 was a delight to see, especially with such an introduction. Thanks, Cheree and Mary. I did not want to put you through the trouble of writing a whole article on the subject, but the answer was interesting and funny, too. "Tearing your hair out over lost orders"... Yeah, and in pure Scrooge McDuck style! It is nice to see that almost everyone in the job has to face the same satisfactions and problems. I hope the info turned out to be interesting for the others, too.

All right, let's get to work.

Tina Bentrup: At last, someone interested in good old Uncle Palpie. Yes, he is the real villain, after all. One thing that I've always liked about the Emperor, although it is a very personal view of the character and it is not confirmed—at least not in a clear way—is his Prometheus role. I do hope that the first trilogy (when 900 years old you will be...) proves me right, but I like to see him as a very powerful sorcerer—much too powerful—whose downfall by the hand of Skywalker has been predicted by Gods, or the Force, or whatever, and he knows it, and yet he struggles to remain master of his destiny and to alter the flowing of the events. I think it would be great stuff for some fiction.

Of course, he exists somewhere. Have you ever thought that the middle trilogy is filled with clues about the first one, but with no clues about the last one? If George the Turtle ever manages to do it, he will have most certainly to fill the first one with links which will lead to the last one. And the return of Palpatine looks like a very good one. What if, having foreseen his death, Empie had hidden somewhere a clone of himself so that his spirit could return using a clone's body? Ah, Uncle Palpatine is such a good character...!

Yes, I saw Ian McDiarmid in the other roles too, and yes, he seems to go for small sardonic roles. Alas, he also seems to go for characters doomed to the worse deaths.

Also, I think I got the answer to the words on Vader's chest panel—there is no answer. I got a very big poster of Vader as he is seen in JEDI, pointing his finger at you, and the

words can be clearly seen. Unfortunately, they are written with the same unknown letters we see on the screens of his shuttle at the beginning of the movie. I guess it's the same thing that happened with the "Lapti Nek" song at Jabba's. In "Making of a Saga", we are told that the song was first written in English and then translated into Huttese. I wonder what the original words were?

Tim Blaes: The fact that Vader has fallen into a volcano is also appearing in Kahn's novelization of JEDI, so I assume it's true and that Marquand had to be full of blueberry muffins. I wonder if he saw Pink Banthas?

Cheryl Pryor: On Palpatine, again. You made a very clever comment! Why does everybody take for granted that the Imperial forces know of the Emperor's powers? The fact that he tried to keep his nature of Force user hidden looks very good, now that you make me think of it. Just imagine how good it is to have the Emperor spreading around him a subtle aura of awe and fear, and people around him just not knowing why! This would enforce his respect as a politician and as a leader without having to discuss the matter of the Force, which seems ignored or at least disliked by the majority.

Maggie Nowakowska: Yes, your explanation of the tree-cave of Dagobah was very good. I suppose it also applied to the matter raised by Matthew Whitney about Luke leaving his training after the vision of his friends. I am afraid that both Yoda and Ben had foreseen his reaction and just let him go face his destiny. They were manipulating him, after all. Who says that there may not be a twinkle of Darkness in light, since there's always a twinkle of light in Darkness?

Speaking about myths: I had once translated into Italian your "Quantum Leap of Star Wars" and I remember it had provoked some good ideas. Has any one of you read Plato's vision of the human spirit? According to Plato, human nature is divided into three parts—Reason or Intellect, Sentiment and Instinct. After reading that, I've always thought how well this applies to the view of the SW universe. We have three major forces: The Empire (reason/intellect), the Rebellion (sentiment), and Jabba's Underworld (instinct). Following this idea, I also noticed that the three main characters seem to fit in with this view. Luke

comes from Tatooine (the world of Jabba/instinct) and he is in balance between sentiment (Alliance) and intellect (Empire). Leia comes from sentiment (Alliance) and she is in balance between cold intellect (although not the Empire) and instinct (see the story with Solo). Han comes from intellect (did you know Lucas said he was once an Imperial officer?) and he is in balance between sentiment (the Rebellion) and instinct (his smuggler life). I know it is not a wholly reasonable view, but it is intriguing.

Also, have you ever noticed that the three main characters, when facing their own Dark Side, do not face

obstacles or enemies or anything else, but just the fulfillment of their desires brought to the extreme consequences) much like Sarah in LABYRINTH)? Just look: at the beginning, Luke hates common life and he is eager to have a life of emotion and adventure. He is offered the maximum of this kind of life by Vader in TESB and by the Emperor in ROTJ—ruling the whole galaxy! He then understands that that is not what he wants at all, but that a normal life along with the people he loves is the best life he can have. Leia, at the beginning, is eager to serve the Rebellion and does not want to experience any personal commitment with anybody else. When in TESB she sees Boba Fett's ship leaving, she has just what she wanted: she is in charge of the Alliance and no personal commitment interferes with that. Only then she understands that she was wrong and in JEDI she leaves the organization of the attack to Mon Mothma and Ackbar to remain at Han's side.

Again, Han at the beginning, just wants to have a solitary lifestyle based on profit and earning. He becomes in this way the object of a business transaction from Vader to Fett and from Fett to Jabba. If everything had to go according to Han's view of life, nobody would rescue him from the carbonite since he wanted just to deal with other people on a profit basis. Luckily, Luke and Leia do feel committed with Han and so make their rescue possible.

In the three cases, if events had to go according to the most hidden desires of the characters, they would all face undoing. And in all cases, it is personal commitment—never

calculated by any of them—that saves them all from downfall.

Well, they're just ideas, but I liked to discuss them with you.

Chris Graham: The Emperor had to be always dark. If he weren't, why was Vader allowed to repent and he wasn't? And if the Emperor was once light, who turned him? And who turned the turner? No, we already have Vader, the portrait of a fallen Jedi. There has to be someone that personifies Evil with no possibility of good, and Palpatine looks perfect to me.

As for the canon...I suppose many of you have heard that, just after 1977, Lucas decided to monitor closely everything concerning SW to make sure that no contradiction appeared among books, comics, games, and so on. Unfortunately, he didn't manage to do it. Awful contradictions have appeared. Among the worst—in the SW First Annual by Marvel, Luke visits a planet in which Darth Vader and Anakin Skywalker had been at the same time and had had a duel. West End Games insists that in the SW universe, paper is not used and that all written communications happens through computers and data pads, and yet Marvel shows in the series, tons of books, documents and papers, and so do the Droid cartoon. Again, WEG affirms that the R5D4 unit at the Jawa auction voluntarily blew his motivator to let R2 continue his mission, while Brian Daley's radio shows say that it is R2 himself who sabotages the other droid in order to be sold off. So, I would be tempted to say that canon in SW is everything approved by LFL, but with these results. This doesn't help us very much.

Debbie Kittle: The radios shows have an explanation for 3PO's behavior in ANH: they have Antilles (the Tantive IV commander) program him before leaving Alderaan to protect and not to relate any information about Leia's presence on board (they were, after all, going to intercept the Death Star data). Artoo is programmed, too, but when Leia delivers him the plans, also removes all restrictions and previous programming, so he is able to show Luke the hologram in the garage. 3PO's behavior in the garage may not imply that he did not know the princess, but that he was rather angry at Artoo's lack of obedience—typical of both.

Okay, there's still more I'd like to discuss, but I'll leave it for another time.

Before leaving, anyway, I'd like to add a letter which was compiled by several fans, including myself, after reading the ALLIANCE letter in the last issue of SE. See you next time. ((See the referenced letter printed as a personal statement elsewhere in this issue.))

Write Locs!

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Hi, everyone and happy summer.

Chris Graham: I love the idea of satirizing F TROOP for the Jedi! J TROOP—snicker. Sounds like the kind of madness Paula Block and Paula Smith would come up with for Trek. Susan and I used to spin off silliness about an Imperial ship called ISS NOWHERE, the ship a person got transferred to when his career was dead, dead, dead. Sort of a cross-takeoff of ST. ELSEWHERE and M*A*S*H.

As for the "vest" on Han in the close-up carbonite scene, I'd run the scene frame by frame on your VCR and note the density of the black you see. Then, look at the following scene where there's a back view of Han. His shoulders are dark while the collar is light, just as it appeared in the front close-up. From my experience in filming (believe me, a spring afternoon in Columbus, Ohio, can be made to look like midnight very easily; I did it for one of my cinema classes), and according to other film-folks I've spoken with, the "vest" is an illusion of lighting.

Z. P. Florian: Saw your name in the Italian zine, CLOUD CITY. Do you write in Italian or are you translated? I had a chance to meet the folks of CLOUD CITY while at ALLIANCECON, and they were very nice. I bought a copy of their translation of the SW radio show in English/Italian, and they have donated copies of their zine to the lending library.

The melting carbon manacles on Han sounds good—I like it—but then wouldn't Han, who is probably cabon-based like the rest of us, melt as well?

A comment on Rap. Yeah, some of it is pret-

ty rotten, but the style has long roots in the English language. Most of it is simply sassy as rock has always been sassy; and there are women employing the style to get their message across. At least it uses language instead of ignoring it; and the rhythm is as American as any ranting preacher. As for who likes it, Tim, believe me, there are lots and lots of suburban white boys who love it, including the ranker stuff. After all, verbal violence against women knows no color; Andrew Dice Clay and Stan Kinean are as pale as you and I. And remember the Stones in the '70's with their album covers and billboards using women in bondage to sell their goods. There have always been songs in rock that degrade women; I have to admit I tend to agree with those who say that if Rap had been confined to the white audience, there would not have been such a fuss. Maybe, it's even beneficial that these words are as blunt as they are instead of hiding their hostility within more traditional weasel phrases that let people ignore what previous songs were really saying.

By the by, Tim, I loved your proposed Oprah title for Luke's and Vader's Father/Son problem!

Pat Nussman's idea that Leia's "mercy mission" was a springboard to political power is very workable. I agree that Han and Leia being able to argue in the halls without causing much ado says a lot about social realities in the Alliance. For one thing, it's not high school, thank the Force. It also seems to me to be one more marker that Alliance people not involved with a specific chain of command, such as a fighter squadron, are relatively free to conduct their lives as they see fit.

Re: the question of how Nazi kids reacted to news of their fathers' sins—SE arrived in Seattle just in time for a 60 MINUTES segment on the subject. I took some notes to throw out for comment on how they might apply to Luke and Leia.

The son of Martin Bormann said he was 15 when he learned of what he called "this shame." The word "shock," he explained, was not good enough to describe his reaction.

The son of a Nazi who so believed in Hitler's definition of euthenasia that he had his younger son killed has been on sedatives for decades; the son of a gestapo chief for a city

said that 40 years later he is barely able to cope with life and his heritage. A Nazi's nephew echoes the shame; he calls himself bad seed, worries about the part of his father in himself. Each fears that the Nazi lives in him. One said that he consciously decided not to have children.

Another said he doesn't suffer from guilt but guilt is always present in his life. He cannot, will not, consider himself a victim because he is a member of the family—the problem of his father cannot be completely mastered, can't be done with it.

One man wanted to commit suicide at 15. He felt "helpless, with absolutely no future". He became a priest because it was "absolutely necessary to forgive my father before I could become a priest." He's a teacher now, says it's necessary to teach about what happened. Another child is an actor, performing the works of those who were killed.

"I never hated my father; my father was separate from the crimes," said one man, but another regards his father as a coward because the father did not go his own way, becoming a Nazi instead. That son is not at peace with his father because he knows "my father would have arrested me if I had been then as I am now. I can't forgive."

The comment I found most haunting was the man who reported that he sees his father in his dreams. His father is chasing him—and his father always catches him because, even in the man's late adulthood, in his dreams, his father is "always quicker."

Tina Bentrup: Oh, my—blushes all over in response to your Mon Mothma comparison. Thank you.

You're right, Ben didn't dwell on guilt. I hesitate to say he caused it all; Palpatine is the master mover here and Anakin had free will, after all. If the Emperor hadn't gotten Skywalker, he would have tried a different way to handle the Jedi. Kenobi just didn't help matters much. He was too proud for his own good and he paid for it. I always liked the Gordon Carleton cartoon which showed Yoda beating on Ben with his gimmer stick, saying, "Fuck it up you did; fix it you will!"

Boy, do I hope the first trilogy elaborates on what Vader said when Luke surrendered, insisting that there was still good in Vader:

"Obi-Wan once thought as you do." To me, that implies that Kenobi once tried to reach Anakin after the man took on the title of Darth Vader. When? How? Can it be attached to Vader's comment in ANH: "You should not have come back." I have always wondered about that last phrase. After all, it was Tarkin who thought Kenobi was dead; Vader brushed off the assertion fairly easily. Had he seen Kenobi at a time after the Big Blowup, seen him privately and dashed Ben's last grasp at reconciliation? If Kenobi had indeed attempted as desperate a ploy as Luke, and had been rejected, no wonder he's doubly bitter. Anakin was Kenobi's friend; from the strength of Ben's emotion on the subject, even after death, it seems that there was a great love there. Luke's feelings are more cerebral, more ideal, not as visceral as all too often they are with a friendship that fatally sour.

Speaking of Vader, thanks to everyone who took a shot at helping me understand the appeal of the man. Funny how all the descriptions of what people find attractive are, for me, what makes Anakin interesting, not Vader. For me, once Anakin decides to be DV and ends up on the Emperor's side, he's blown it and becomes the person to rebel against; the only thing interesting about him is whether he'll ever reawaken to his other self, which is really Luke's story, not his.

Marti Schuller: I think the fact that Vader suppresses his humanity—and the damage that denial helps to happen—is a major point in SW. Your description of how Vader fans admire single-mindedness strikes me as a good possibility for how Anakin reacted to Palpatine. By the Force, ol' yellow eyes must have been damn efficient in his use of power to become Emperor. No doubts or ambiguities about him. One might add, no need to think much beyond "I want", either.

Z. P. Florian: I'm beginning to believe that, as much as with any other character in SW, each of us takes the Anakin s/he needs. For me, it's important that Anakin goes bad of his own free will. I would pity an Akakin/Vader who was a victim of social expectations, not fear his example. Ending up in Imperial service simply because it is the family thing to serve; well, that can be a good story—Susan Matthews' "Kosciusko" cycle handled the problem superbly—but it's not as primal as having Ana-

kin fall through his own choice. There was a whole wide galaxy out there in which Anakin could find something else to do; if he decided to participate with the local fascism, the final choice was his, not his family's. Yeah, it's a hard choice, but many people have made it.

I want an Anakin/Vader as an extreme example of a knowledgeable dark sider; I want him to remind us of the times we ourselves slip into the dark side, excusing ourselves with whatever reasons. In church, as a child, I was taught that the worst sin was believing yourself so bad—being so proud of your own power—that you were unredeemable, thereby positioning yourself as a judge of God's capability to forgive. Vader tells Luke that there's no hope for himself and discovers, in the end, that he is not a prisoner of his own pride. I think that that realization is Anakin's gift to his son—and is the hope he represents to us.

Cheryl Pryor asks what she can do as a non-writing, non-drawing fan. I can vouch that Cheryl already knows the answer and acts faithfully upon it.

And that answer is—write LoCs to the writers and artists.

While shuffling through my filksong binder, I came upon an old (1983) filk on LoCs. I'm afraid the situation that it described back so long ago still exists today:

*Tune: I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write
Myself a Letter*

I'm gonna sit right down
and write myself a letter;
and make believe that it's a LoC.

I'm gonna heap the praise so deep,
I'm gonna sink up to my teeth.
Exclamations on the bottom—
I'll be glad I got 'em!

I'm gonna catch each subtle
nuance and allusion;
and hope there'll be a sequel soon.

I'm gonna sit right down
and write myself a letter,
If I don't get some LoCs damn soon!

Why are there fewer and fewer stories around? One certain reason is because the writers can't believe fandom wants stories anymore, not really, not without the guaranteed proof in the hand that a LoC represents. It's not a coincidence that stories started to get sparse about the same time that LoCs began dwindling. In Gian Paolo's letter, he says he'd like to see stories on Mon Mothma. Okay, I published a story on MM, but whether it was good or bad or indifferent, I don't bloody well know because no one has told me. The artist liked it (thanks, Catherine), but not one LoC appeared. Zilch. Nada. Niente.

And no excuses like "The zine's a one-shot", or "the editor doesn't print LoCs." Ask the editor to send your comments along to the writer (many do not do this automatically). Or ask for the writer's address. Or review the zine/story for SE. One of the famous phrases of the 20th century is *Silence Kills*. Well, that applies to serious things like AIDS and tyranny, and to less important things like fanlit.

Our writing is our way of talking about SW. Our ideas are questions thrown out to the readers. Is this the way it could be? How well does this and such and such work with so and so? If no one says anything, a writer assumes the story isn't worth following with another. And she doesn't. And I haven't.

This is your chance to participate in the art of storytelling. To paraphrase the Blue Diamond Almond people: "One comment a story is all we ask." You don't have to write a thesis. Just, "Hi, I read your story. I really liked 'A'; I thought 'B' was an interesting idea; and 'C' didn't really work for me. Keep writing. Signed, A Fellow Fan." That's all it takes. Okay, those are three comments; call 'em the Good, the Not Successful and the Interesting.

Encourage us in our good habits; comment kindly on what didn't quite work as we had hoped it would. Nobody's story is perfect; nobody's story is all rotten. What is important is that you read it and thought about it and as one fan to another are offering reaction—any reaction, please!

Your comments will inspire, maybe, irritate the writer. One thing is sure; they'll probably keep her writing if only to "get it right

and unassailable" next time.

Back to Pat's letter—Yes, yes, the idea of reviewing old zines—of reviewing any zines—is good. That is at least the third time it has come up. Hey, guys, we're supposed to be SW fanzine fandom. Why aren't we talking about what we do, done, did? Reviewing doesn't have to mean playing John-Simon-the-nasty-critic. Just talk about the stories and how they affected you; if something seems really weird, all you have to say is, Well, I never thought of that angle before, and go on to the next subject.

I go back to what I said about LoCs: If we don't talk about what people are doing, how is anyone to know that anyone cares about what we're doing?

All this ties in somehow with thoughts I've been having on nostalgia. After reading Jacqueline Taero's letter, friends and I got to talking, wondering if—once upon a time—fandom had really been so very troublesome, or so very much better. Force knows, I've been one to bitterly complain that no one wants to get involved anymore (see above thoughts on the subject of LoCs!). Still, the more we talked, the more I became convinced that this nostalgia for the "good old days" can be as destructive to fandom as any other more obvious events, such as public personal fights or rampant dogmatism.

Both the good and the bad seem to get exaggerated in memory. Even after having many of my old, hot emotions rekindled by reading all the old ALDERAANS and JUNDLAND WASTES very recently, I'm inclined to murmur, no, it really wasn't all that bad. Even at the height of the "anyone who doesn't agree with me on this interpretation/characterization is immoral" accusations that singed the early SE, SW was never as vicious as some of the fandoms that followed. (Or, I don't remember any such in-your-face troubles. Of course, I live on the west coast, away from more casual fannish socializing. Other fans may remember events I never knew about.)

And as for which kind of fan stories were "acceptable"—at the height of SW fandom in 1983, JUNDLAND WASTES reported more than 60 SW zines in existence; they weren't all filled with action/adventure stories or generational sagas. Anne Elizabeth Zeek was a very popular

author, for example. So were Pat Nussman and Marcia Brin. Maybe it's a case of recalling criticism pertinent to myself, but I sure remember an awful lot of tolerance for relationship stories over political or universe stories (along with a lot of "we're more mature than you guys" insinuations thrown in both directions). Yep, there was a lot of jumping on female characters; but that reflected a real problem in the greater society and, if anything, we were all too timid to tackle the subject seriously in articles instead of just snippy letters.

(Maybe that's another good reason for newer fans to review old zines and stories; maybe we need a fresh perspective on the swamp we were in the middle of back then. Were the stories superficial; or too obviously reflections of wishful lover/adventure/heroic thinking; or too silly for words?)

Why can't things be like they used to be? Well, because things aren't the way they used to be. Zines do take a bigger chunk out of a person's budget these days. When I was playing catch-up with Trek zines in the mid-70's, I was mailing out checks for \$2 to \$5, at most 1/5 of my biweekly food budget. These days it takes \$20 to \$30 for zine and postage and that's 1/2 of the same food bill. And I don't have kids to clothe and take care of.

In many ways, those of us around in the first ten years of Trekdom and at the beginning of SW fandom were pioneers. If we demand those who follow to do the same as we did, we'll be no different than old city-founding pioneers sitting around, complaining that the kids don't haul water and use outhouses or sew their own clothes like in the Good Old Days when Things Were Better.

Different, yes; better, who can say? Each of our experiences of time is unique to itself.

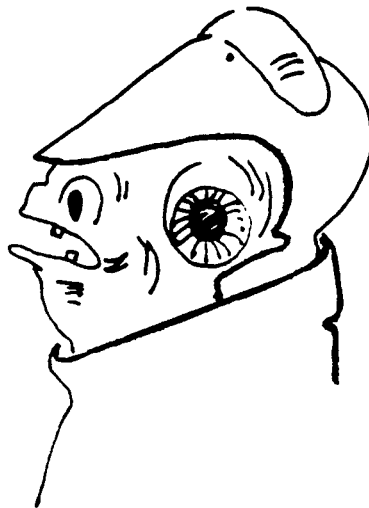
The SW I know was 6 years of guessing what was coming next, of making it up as we went along, of being newcomers in a strange new universe. What the SW fan of 1988 or 1991 knows is altogether different in some very telling ways.

For me, canon is the three movies; everything else is alternate. But for a fan just deciding to be interested in SW today, or for anyone who didn't hear Gary Kurtz say in Boston in 1980 that the movies alone were canon, the

universe is everything that was ever printed under LFL's name and even without. SW is all the literature written for the role-playing game; SW is all the children's books, and the Han Solo books, and the Lando books, and now HEIR TO THE EMPIRE. A new fan would have every reason to look at me as if I were crazy if I told them that all that material isn't "really" SW. Of course it is to them, just as Nintendo is a children's game that's been around forever to my 5-year-old niece—"How good did you do at Super Mario when you were a girl, Aunt Maggie?"

If SW fanzine fandom is to remain vital, it must recognize the passing of time and the changing of the guard. Trek has how many generations? The original TV show fans, the syndication fans, the movie fans, and now ST:TNG fans. They all know different Treks. Same with SW by now, and especially so if Lucas finishes the first trilogy. We'll have the original trilogy fans (who, Force knows, have their own divisions by which movie hooked them), the kids who grew up with the children's books and Ewok movies fans, the role-playing fans, the "captured by the video" fans, and then the next trilogy fans, among whom you'll find the children and even grandchildren of many original trilogy adult fans.

Whose SW will it be then? What will SW be then? Maybe fanzines as known in the 70's and 80's were simply a stage, a period of time to be cherished and valued, but not to be duplicated for a while again. Maybe, instead of wishing for the old days and holding today to their measure, we should look around and see what we can make of what we have now. After all, when GL finally does the first trilogy, we'll be the base to build a new fandom on, we'll be the history people turn to.



Leanne Wingo
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June 11, 1991

I bought SE #28 at MediaWest*Con and finally had time to read through it. Wow! Gee, I should've gotten a subscription years ago! All that I've been missing...*sigh*... Well, when I get a little extra cash, I'll have to buy some back issues. (I'd go ahead and buy some now, but AT&T wants my money. Unreasonable, aren't they?)

I read, highlighted, and reread a bunch of letters from people in SE. I'd really like to respond, although I believe I'm too late for #29. Okay, here goes...

Chris Graham: I think Luke would still want to become a Jedi if he knew the truth about Vader. I wonder if Luke would've been able to handle the situation better if he knew? Say Luke already had known when Vader told him. Vader was counting on the element of surprise to throw Luke off, right? If Luke had known then, Vader would've been surprised, not Luke. Vader would've been thrown off track then.

I believe you're right that Luke still would've wanted to kill Vader. I would've liked to have seen a scene showing Leia's reaction to the news of Vader/Anakin's death. Or perhaps if Luke managed to save Anakin and we get to see Leia's feelings facing the man who is her natural father, and also the man who was Vader. Then Leia may've gotten more of a sense of understanding of Luke's decision to try to turn Vader.

Oh! I loved your story of the first time you saw JEDI. The 2nd or 3rd time I saw it, a bunch of Navy personnel were in the audience. Believe me, these sailors weren't shy about expressing their feelings over Leia's slave outfit.

No! It is not your imagination. I, too, always thought the Ewoks said "Dat guy's wise" (about 3PO) and "Jo Mama". I always figured it was probably some in-joke by George or someone else on the crew. Any other ideas?

Jacqueline Taero: Whoa! What a letter. Some very interesting and thought-provoking points.

Even though my name may not seem familiar,

I've been somewhat involved in the outskirts of fandom for quite some time. Because, now, I am in a better financial situation than I was in the past, it is now much easier to spend \$ on this hobby and involve myself. Which I now do.

Because I've been somewhat on the "outskirts" (borrowing old zines, new zines, hearing info, ideas, etc. from the grapevine rather than buying into it myself), I don't have a sense of the so-called "dullness" (for lack of a better word) that I hear many people speak of. But I do agree that new ideas are beneficial and very welcome.

The idea of comparing real life to fiction is a good one. Where else does a writer get ideas?? Sure, the stories are fiction, but something from reality often spurs them on. At lease that's been my experience.

Crime & Criminal Justice: I always wondered about Mos Eisley, myself. Compared to places I've been—NYC, downtown Tijuana (on a Saturday night, especially!), and East L.A., it looks very tame! It would be interesting to explore why it truly is a "wretched hive of scum and villainy." Perhaps there's much more the camera doesn't catch? ((Ed: *We only see it in the daytime. Maybe the action starts when the suns set?*))

Some more interesting points about the SW war. We all saw how Desert Storm affected us. How does this galactic civil war affect them? Look at our own American history. I'm quite sure I'm not the only one who's thought of a comparison to the Revolutionary War. One thing I wonder is about the human relationships and the politics of these situations, and how they relate to each other. Once, a while back, Ronald Reagan referred to the USSR as the "evil empire." If a real life political figure can refer to a fictional idea (yeah, yeah, so many people say Reagan was a fictional idea; that's beside my point), and then refer to real life. Can't we refer to real life with ideals of fictional basis?

Anyway, some very interesting points were made. Well said, and well taken. I'm going to do my best to get involved. After all, this is a nice fun diversion!

Maggie Nowakowska: Yes! I love the idea of fannish bios! See, I'm this beautiful, tall redhead with a gorgeous figure. Ha! Why are

you all laughing? Seriously, it is a nice idea. I'd like to know about everyone involved. What do you think, Cheree? ((Ed: See the bio section, reinstated in the front section of the zine.))

I loved all the quotes and tidbits. Thank you! I loved reading Billy Dee's impressions of Lando. I never really thought Lando was a bad guy. He was simply stuck in a bad situation. I always thought maybe Darth threatened some of the citizens of Cloud City to get Lando to co-operate, or something along those lines. It makes for a dilemma--choosing the lives of an entire city or turning in your friends to Darth Vader. Lando was definitely a character I'd like to learn more about. Compared to what we know of Luke, Leia and Han's pasts, Lando seems much more of a mystery. Anyone have ideas?

To all concerned, re Darth's sex appeal: The way I see it, there are a few things that set the stage to accomplish this--his power, his voice, and his menacing sense of humor. Villains are the most fun in the movies. Psychologically, I want a "good guy", a "Luke" or a "Han" in reality. In fantasy, there's the aspect of enjoying the villain without the worry. That, to me, is a big portion of his appeal.

Well, I guess I've rambled on long enough. I'd better close. Besides, it's after 2 a.m. now and I have to work tomorrow. (Fun, fun.) Take care, fly casual, and Que la Force Soit Avec Joi!

Unresponsive Editors

Auriette Hahn
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June 17, 1991

Z.P. Florian: Why did no one know Vader's real name at court? IMO, the air of mystery surrounding the Sith Lord would be as powerful as the Force itself in the troubled times in

which Vader appeared. Or, maybe deep down, Anakin was embarrassed about what he had become. Why would Kenobi target Vader? I think Ben didn't want Luke to learn of his father's identity or Ben's part in creating Darth Vader. Re your problems with submitting to zines/receiving responses from editors, I've only tried to get info by mail on one zine without success. I've sent several SASEs, and if the editor had decided to fold the zine, I wish she'd have dropped a note. The zine, by the way, is CONFLICTING IMPULSES, which contained several multi-part stories from the now defunct ARCHAEOLOGY 101. Has anyone heard anything about CI or A101 recently?

Fiorenzo Delle Rupi: Although I missed the initial question, I think at least part of the reason that the Emperor sent the guards out of the room was to make Luke feel he had more of a chance to escape.

Debbie Kittle: I agree that Palpatine was probably a young man 30-40 years old when he was elected. I have always thought of him as a very charismatic leader, like Hitler, who was able to convince everyone he had the galaxy's best interest at heart. In the prologue of the novelization, Palpatine "promised to reunite the disaffected among the galaxy and restore the remembered glory of the Republic." Hitler promised to do pretty much the same thing in war-torn Germany of the 30's. Also, it's been my understanding that the third trilogy takes place about 40 years after the second, and if all's going well, the last vestiges of the Empire should be just about taken care of. It's a big galaxy, though, and is 40 years enough time to "reconstruct" the Republic?

Chris Graham: A question in response to your question: If the Emperor could feel presences in the Force, why didn't he sense Leia? They were certainly together in a room at some point, since she moved in political circles. Was some trigger implanted in Leia (and Luke, too?) so that the Force lay dormant until they were made aware of it? Obviously, Leia was able to use the Force subconsciously to withstand the Imperial mind probes in ANH.

Matthew Whitney: I always felt that Leia wasn't elected to the Senate. Vader asks in ANH, "Where is the Ambassador?" and I always thought that perhaps Ambassador to the Senate was an honorary title or appointed position.

Standard probably was a naturally occurring language in the center of the galaxy (or wherever trade routes began). English is widely learned and spoken on Earth, and various languages (Latin, French) have served as "Earth Standard" in the past.

Jacqueline Taero: I really found SW fandom in late 1980-early 1981 and enjoyed all the speculation about the loose ends in TESB. I find I don't enjoy alternate universe stories these days (although I do like well-written crossover stories). I haven't kept up with all the zines, so I haven't grown tired of Luke, Leia and Han, but I do feel the future of the fandom lies in encouraging the development of minor characters and the creation of original characters.

Maggie Nowakowska: I loved your thought of the Jedi as the cops (guardian angels) taking care of pirates, gangsters and other thugs. Thanks for including the quotes. I remembered some of them, but not the source. I've been wondering for a while now where I saw that "good mother, bad mother" quote. I never really thought about any meaning behind the "mon" until you mentioned it in your LoC. Now, I imagine it as translating as "great" or "large". I recall reading in BANTHA TRACKS that the Mon Calamari were from the water world of Dac. Mon Calamari could then be a "standard" name (meaning roughly "big squid") as opposed to the race's name for itself.

Tina Bentrup: I always thought that Beru was probably Luke's blood relation, most likely Anakin's sister because of the fondness with which she spoke of him. When I saw Sebastian Shaw's face, I couldn't help but recognize a "family resemblance". Maybe we'll find out more with the release of the first trilogy.

And, speaking of the first trilogy, what does everyone think of the news? My mom told me about the enclosed article from the PEN-SACOLA NEWS JOURNAL (reproduced in the clippings section) and a brief article in THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER saying pretty much the same thing. A friend called last week with a report that another friend had seen George quoted in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE saying that a new film could be in theaters as early as next year. The way Lynne Hale phrased it, the entire trilogy should be out within seven years, but I still think next year might be stretching it.

I referred earlier to quotes that I could no longer place, and here's another one: George commented (pre-BACK TO THE FUTURE, PARTS 2 & 3) that he wanted to shoot principle photography all at once so he wouldn't have to worry about aging or getting the cast back together again. It all sounds good to me, and I'm looking forward to reading articles and reports in upcoming issues of SE.

I can't believe I still haven't finished HEIR TO THE EMPIRE. I just took up fencing, which takes three nights a week, and weekends I've been trying to repair a leak in my roof. There never seems to be enough hours in the day! Oh, for those winning Lotto numbers... Anyway, I'm looking forward to seeing the reviews of those who have read it. Although Zahn seems to be following the RPG books with his references to ship types and such, he's done a few little things that don't seem to be in keeping with the rest of the trilogy. Much like the Daley and Smith novels, I don't feel I can take this as gospel. Timothy Zahn will be at Necronomicon this October in Tampa and I'll be sure to ask a few questions about this new series. Although I've only listened to a few minutes of the book on tape (I prefer to finish the novel first), the narration by Denis Lawson is a nice touch. Has anyone heard anything about DARK EMPIRE, the comic book limited series from Marvel? Last I heard, it was supposed to come out last fall, but I've heard nothing since, and neither Marvel or Lucasfilm could give me any details. It was supposed to take place after ROTJ, too, so maybe it's somehow connected (or was replaced by) the Zahn novels.

Is anyone else going to Worldcon this year? If so, would anyone like to get together and do something (like eat chocolate and talk about SW)?

Well, I'm already late mailing this, so I'll sign off now, although I could go on forever. I suppose that's what deadlines are for. I must say, though, that I'm so glad I got the info on SE from Tasha Mohr and subscribed. I've been looking for a forum like this for years! Obviously, I wasn't looking in the right place. Thanks, Cheree, for a wonderful outlet.

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June 23, 1991

The party you held at MediaWest this year was really nice and I hope you get to do it again next year. The munchies you and others brought were wonderful (you haven't lived until you've bitten the head off a chocolate Wookiee and a peanut butter Sith Lord), and so was the zap gun brought by Cypher. Word to the wise: if a Jawa offers you a drink, it's best to pass it up. ((Ed: *In explanation, we were visited by a Jawa bearing a canteen of Tatooine Tonic. Tim was the only one brave (?) enough to sample it. Within about fifteen minutes, his eyes crossed and the floor tilted up at a 45 degree angle.*))

MWC 11 was very "interesting" (as in the old Chinese curse) this year, and I'd like to make Wampa Chow out of those responsible for making it that way. I'll leave it to you, Cheree, and the other SEers there to elaborate the various snafus; I just hope the hotel staff are stewing in their own juices by now.

Z.P. Florian: If Luke had gotten here early in ANH, there might have been three skeletons roasting under the Tatooine suns. If he somehow made it there far enough ahead of the troopers, what could he tell Owen and Beru? If Ben had made it along with Luke, the old wizard could have convinced the troopers that they "wouldn't find the droids you're looking for", but afterwards, Owen might throw a fit. As for how long it took to rescue Han, both Leia and Luke had responsibilities to the Rebellion that might have precluded just jumping in a ship and pulling everyone's favorite Corellian's buns out of the carbonite. Besides, I don't remember any mention of how much time had passed in the movie.

I'll toss out a "what if" of my own. What if Leia had not been intercepted and made it to Tatooine? Just how did she expect to find Obi-Wan?

Chris Graham: The standard rule is that only the movie or TV shows are "canon", but I take what I want and ignore what I don't like with all the "secondary" material. Regarding those calendars, I finally figured out why

they're so hard to find; they're published in Canada. I picked up the '91 for \$5 at MWC this year. I don't think Waldens will ever carry this one.

Jacqueline Taero: Instead of floundering around with post-JEDI stories, perhaps we should re-examine the space of time between ANH and TESB. I don't think this period has been re-explored much in recent zines, yet with what we know now... Writing for one's self is the only real reason for writing for a fanzine; otherwise, why not just go pro? Now is the time to submit some of those novels on your bookshelf. Remember, no matter where we've been, we're here now.

Maggie Nowakowska: Over the phone, you mentioned a rumor that Spielberg and Lucas wanted to direct an episode of TWIN PEAKS. That could get real cute. If they do a sequel series set 25 years in the future, as I think they might do, then perhaps they might play a sort of Anakin/Cooper angle: "Sheriff Truman never told you about your father, did he?" On a show this complicated, the Fat Lady will probably never sing, and that is the only reason I didn't tear my hair out after the finale. Instead of tying up loose ends, Lynch made sure nothing was resolved.

Matthew Whitney: Perhaps the reason we can't see a vampire's clothing in a mirror is because they exist in a magical/dimensional pocket that can't be perceived in reflected light. You've summed up my feelings for DARK SHADOWS. I don't know about the rest of the nation, but the local NBC affiliate kept preempting it for sports and religious programming, bumping DS to 12:30 Sunday night sometimes. How can a show keep its audience if they keep jerking it around like that? On a side note, I think Joanna Going would make a wonderful Wonder Woman. But THE FLASH has bitten the dust, so that series may never get off the ground.

I found out some interesting things about Pernzine fandom. Most of the "weyrs" voluntarily submit their fiction to Anne McCaffrey for approval. This means no mutant dragons (darn it) and no religion on Pern. Since Anne lives on the other side of an ocean, Pernzine fans could probably get away with almost anything they want and escape her notice (and in fact there are a few "unmentioned" weyrs that

do exactly that), but most of them are on good terms with her and want to stay that way. The process of producing a Pernzine is much more elaborate than a SW zine. Another thing I found out is that Del Rey hates anything to do with Pern fans. "Threadfall charts" of fannish origin did not appear in the American hardcover of DRAGONSDAWN because of this. Del Rey would probably have a fit if they knew how many times Anne has snuck fannish things into her novels, anyway.

Mary Urhausen: Technically, Rap does fit the parameters of music. M. C. Hammer may not thrill me, but he does not offend me.

Cross universe stories, even cross universe zines, seem to have become quite prevalent. CROSSIGNALS is a zine devoted exclusively to the C/U fiction, and it is up to issue four, each growing fatter than the last. I picked up a flyer for CRYSTAL VISIONS, a B&B zine that seems to be filled with nothing but crossovers, with SHADOW CHASERS, DOCTOR WHO, WILD CARDS, BATMAN, MAN FROM UNCLE, NIGHT COURT (?), and

the inevitable QUANTUM LEAP. QL has a couple of crossover zines all to itself, and that's no big surprise.

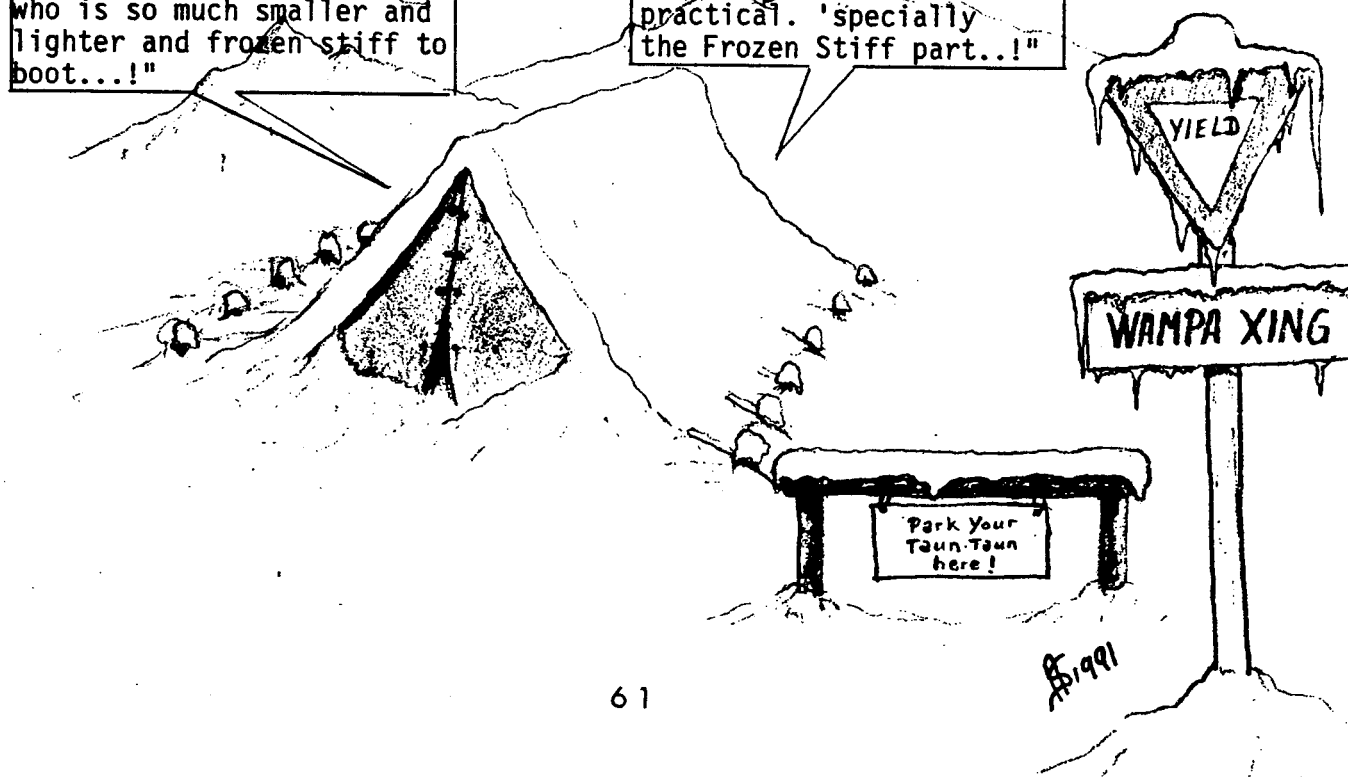
Well, I've decided to announce that I will edit a SW cross universe zine. I'm open to suggestions as to what to call it; I considered CROSSED SABRES but I think that one's been taken. I know SW is probably one of the hardest universes to cross, but like Cheree said, the zine doesn't have to be an inch thick. It will probably be a one-shot, unless I get more material than I can reasonably expect. I would be looking for someone to do a LORD OF THE RINGS crossover, as well as with WILLOW. For those of you out there who don't know me that well, I like things weird, full-tilt gonzo, if you can manage it. I know this crowd can manage that, and that's why I'm starting here. Send Me Stuff!! Send me three good stories, a handful of vignettes, and a couple of cartoons, and we got a zine!

From the Outer Limits of the Twilight Zone...

ONCE UPON A TIME ... ON AN ICECUBE, FAR, FAR AWAY....

"I don't think it's fair to take advantage of someone who is so much smaller and lighter and frozen stiff to boot...!"

"Yeah - it aint 'zactly fair, but it's fun an' practical. 'specially the Frozen Stiff part...!"



NO DISTANCE FOR **GALAX * A * FAX** - TOO SHORT - OR FAR!

☐ PLANETARY ☐ SYSTEM ☐ INTERSYSTEM ☐ INTERGALACTIC ☒ **N-DIMENSIONAL**
100% ☐ CHECK ONE

/ Sol III (EARTH)

(Force only knows how it gets there)

Cheree Cargill/ SOUTHERN ENCLAVE/ Garland, Texas 75043 c/o C Churko NY NY 10033 (plse foward)

Luke Skywalker/ Riselle IV (JANTARRA)/ JEDI ACADEMY/ Tante Provence, Jemsa 0078*

ROM:

☒ YES ☐ NO OPTICAL FRAMING?

Dear Cheree:

I continue to give thanks for your long-standing care-taking of the Southern Enclave. Surely an interesting, amusing and occasionally ship-shaking task! (Though Force only knows how our story, in general, was Sent/Received by your Story-Teller!)

I premise my next remarks with the knowledge of the N-Dimensional Template/Variant Theory; meaning your good folk might also be picking up variant dimensional info.

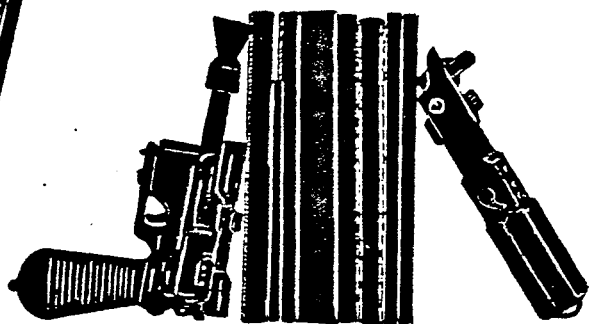
Yes, it is true that I worried quite a bit about being a (the only) Jedi Teacher; with the recent past staring me in the face. With growing trust in the Force and my friends' help, I managed to get things going; bad days and good ones. I did remember my sense of humour, among other qualities.

So I am here to dispell the rumours of my doom & gloom countenance. How do these things get started!? And who do you think has first dils on the Academy's Mediation Pool after 22 Standard Hrs? (Antilles insisted I send this holo-flat he took of me, for proof!)

Wishing you continued sucess,

Luke





MOS EISLEY MARKETPLACE

CURRENTLY IN PORT

ANAKIN — About 100 pages. The passionate life of Darth Vader, never before revealed. A large dose of Palpatine rising and Kenobi falling. Meet Luke's mother and live to regret it. See the young Jabba, Chewie, boy Han, and twins. For those who think Vader is more man than machine. With illustrations. Magnificently xeroxed by hand. \$8.00, postage included. (VERY reasonable.) Z. P. Florian, 6214 Waterway, Falls Church, VA 22044.

A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #5. Featuring the second part of "The Conspiracy of Kommor" by Angela Fassio, "Castling", an outstanding First Trilogy novel by Mesarthim and Stardancer, and shorter stories by Carolyn Golledge, Maggie Nowakowska, Ann Wortham, Sandi Jones, Marti Schuller, Ming Wathne, Barbara Drake, Martha Wells, Catriona Campbell, Matthew Whitney, Susan Zahn and many others. Color cover by Dianne Smith. Art portfolio by Steven Fox. Other art by Wanda Lybarger, Melanie Guttierrez, Nancy Stasulis, Laura Virgil, Z. P. Florian, and more. Another big issue! \$25.00 priority mail, \$30.00 overseas airmail. Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Dr., Garland, TX 75043. SASE us about limited reprints of TF #1-4.

BETTER IDEA ZINE. Dedicated to bringing the serious Harrison Ford fan a concentrated dose of news and information covering Mr. Ford's films quarterly, BetterIdeaZine reaches readers across the U.S. and around the world. Join other discriminating fans in keeping up with Mr. Ford's projects and joining in lively discussions. Not just

a newszine, not just a letterzine, not just a storyzine, but a combination of the best of all three. Issues average 80 pages, partially reduced, and are chock full of news, reviews, interviews and photographs. Rates: \$6.50/issue third class, \$7.50/issue first class; \$9.00/issue overseas airmail OR \$24/4 third class; \$28/4 first class; \$34/4 overseas airmail. [Please note the new rates, due to the postage increase taking effect February 1, 1991.] Checks or money orders payable to: Cynthia L. Smith, 31 Lincoln Avenue, Lansdale, PA 19446. Or send SASE for more information.

BRIGHT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE. A new SW zine. Stories by Golledge, Nussman, Malkin, Dragon, Florian and others. Art by Lybarger, Martynn, and Florian and some new, very fine artists. 169 pages desktop published to keep costs down, spiral bound to open easily. \$17.00 mail or UPS. SASE for overseas price. For info SASE Ming Wathne, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

CHOICE PARTS #1—(all Harrison Ford). Featuring "Chance Encounter" by Kate Birkel. Tommy Lillard was minding his own business when the strangest looking thing he'd ever seen fell out of the sky—with a beautiful, sharp-tongued princess on board. "The One That Got Away" by Cypher. Han had a lead on the most fabulous jewels in the galaxy. Now, all he had to do was dive to the bottom of an ocean, contact the local piscine inhabitants and convince them to lead him to their treasure. "Remembrance" by Carolyn Golledge. Han and Leia had returned to Corell to find a sacred icon that had belonged to Han's family, shortly before the family holding was destroyed by Imperial troops.

Without it, Han could never proclaim his true identity. Much more by Ann Wortham, Marci Erwin, Jeannie Webster and Elizabeth Wilson. Poetry by Martie Benedict-O'Brien, Pat Nussman, Jacqueline Taero, Patricia D'Orazio, Sarah Macht-Dewitt and others. Art by Wanda Lybarger, Martynn, Dianne Smith, Dani, Jim Markle and Barbara Frances-Simon. Note—some material is slightly on the adult side. \$15.00 first class. Make checks payable to Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Drive, Garland, TX 75043. SASE us about limited reprints of CHOICE PARTS #2.

CHRONICLES OF THE HOUSE OF ALDERAAN. The Empire may have fallen, but Han and the Princess aren't exactly leading a quiet life together. In "On Board the Millennium Falcon", Han and Leia tend to each other after the escape from Tatooine. "Princess Leia Goes Shopping" and learns that not everyone is happy with the downfall of the Empire. During a layover on the misted planet Blirris, Lando Calrissian discovers a "sleeping angel" who bears an uncommon resemblance to the Princess of Alderaan, and "The Failed Execution of Shallist the Assassin" is revealed. Stories by Susan Deborah Smith. Illustrated by Joel Sweeney, the man with the coolest hair in the galaxy. 100+ pp, perfect bound. \$10.75 fc, \$15.00 Canada; reply coupon for overseas price. Checks payable to Susan Deborah Smith, Pisces Pig, Ltd., 3538 Mentone Avenue #3, Los Angeles, CA 90034-4820.

HIBERNATION SICKNESS. A quarterly minizine devoted entirely to the SW saga. Each issue averages 24 pages and contains a variety of short stories, poems, artwork, and more. Subscriptions for four issues (one year) \$12 US/\$17 overseas. \$3 sample issue. Send cash, check or money order to: Lisa Thomas, 7606 Lady Street, Charleston Heights, SC 29420.

RESOLUTIONS SOLO by H. Sapientio. The complete story of Solo's life after he marries Leia. Much is also revealed of his past. Great trashing and great mushy stuff. 625 pages! 3 volumes. Unbound. SASE to C. Golledge, Rt 1, Box 20E, Fillmore, NY 14735.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #1: The zine that started it all! Still some copies available. Fiction, articles and poetry by Ripley, Peed, Thomas, Martz, Rogan, Saye and others. Art by River, Peed, Fregni, Carleton and others. Cover by River. \$12.50 first class mail, \$10.00 in person. THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #2. Winner of the 1986 Fan Q Award for

Best SW Zine! Still some copies available. Fiction, articles and poetry by Golledge, Ripley, Cope, Martz and others; art by Lybarger, River, Charvat, Peed, Dani, Bryant, and others. Something to Offend Absolutely Everyone! Perfect bound. \$13.50 in person; \$14.50 book rate; \$17.00 first class mail. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #3, #4, #5 and #7 — These four issues are now all officially Out of Print (OOP). In accordance with the terms of the Clone Wars Treaty, Double D Press hereby gives all fans permission to make themselves single, not for resale xerox copies of these three issues for their own personal use. Double D Press will not be reprinting any of them. A limited number of the original covers (front and back) are still available for #5 and #7; a 9 x 12 inch manila SASE will get them free for the taking, while they last. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #6. We have fiction by Carolyn Golledge, Marti Schuller, Carol Moffat, Samia Martz, Sue Zahn, Eric Goodman, Z. P. Florian, Karen Ripely, Madalena Mumford, L. A. Carr, Catriona Campbell, Janet D'Angostino-Toney, Becky Cope & Renee Scheiber, and others; Sharon Saye's Guide to 1988 SW Zines; and some of the most stunning art in SW fandom! Our cover, inside and out, marks "The Return of the Han Fan" (need I say more?). \$22.00 in person, \$26.50 first class il. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

ZINE SCENE. A new ad zine with a new premise—ads listed according to fandom so that you can find what you're looking for without having to wade through dozens of other listings! First issue is already available. Sample issue: \$4.00. Year's subscription: \$12.00. For more info, SASE Ann Wortham, 1402 Allison Avenue, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. Make checks payable to Ann Wortham. Inquiries without SASE's will not be answered.



COMING TO A GALAXY NEAR YOU

ANOTHER SKY... Will Star Wars fandom support a new bi-annual Lukezine? There's only one way to find out! Please send any art, stories, poems, etc. that feature Luke or original characters within the SW universe to "Another Sky...", M. Guttierrez, 6017 West End Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124-1933, or L. Cherry, 4137 Ames Blvd., Lot 83, Morrero, LA 70072-9998. Help us bring back the romance and magic that made SW different and inspiring! A.S. issue #1 planned for late summer. 100+ pages, color, signed and numbered cover, lots of other surprises. No Slash material will be accepted.

A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #6. A Golden Age SW zine. Featuring "Ladies' Choice" by Pat Nussman and Jacqueline Taero. The Alliance forces have relocated from Yavin to Hoth and things are not going well. And General Rieeken finds that the Empire is not the only thing complicating his life at the moment. Also featuring "The Black Sleep" by Carolyn Golledge. The Blood of Kali forced Indiana Jones' soul to flee from its possessed body. When he woke up, he was in a galaxy far, far away. "Alyeska Wild Cards" by Maggie Nowakowska. Trapped in an avalanche shelter with a gang of belligerent miners and forced into a marathon sabacc game with Lando, Han suddenly finds his fortune changing, as piece by piece the ownership of the Millennium Falcon falls into his hands. "Father and Son" by Z. P. Florian. What if Darth Vader had managed to put Luke into carbonite and spirit him away to train as a Dark Jedi? Much more by Carolyn Golledge, Pat Nussman and Jacqueline Taero, Cheree Cargill, Susan Deborah Smith, Z. P. Florian, and Susan Zahn. Color cover by Melanie Guttierrez. Other art by Wanda Lybarger, Rebecca Carey, Z. P. Florian, and other favorites. For info, SASE Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill, Garland, TX 75043.

88 MILES PER HOUR. Now accepting submissions, artwork and poetry for new BACK TO THE FUTURE zine. Please contact Nora Mayers, 11459 Cherry Hill Road, Beltsville, MD 20705.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #8: May or may not be coming to a galaxy near you...we seem to have a flight

delay! Plans to publish Issue 8 have been put on an indefinite hold, pending the receipt of enough quality material. We are still accepting material—just realize that all acceptance is conditional, depending on whether or not this baby ever flies! For submissions, write: Samia Martz, 464 Winchester Place, Belleville, IL 62221, or Dr. Mary Urhausen, Double D Press, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

OTHER WORLDS

COLLECTORS GUIDE TO STAR PHOTOS. Once you've acquired even one true photograph of your favorite star, a picture in a magazine will never give you the same satisfaction. This is the only comprehensive guide to the stores and mail order services that sell photos to individuals. Save yourself weeks of waiting and use your savings in postage to buy more photos from the vendors that are most likely to have photos of your favorite film, stage and television stars (even soap opera personalities) or rock & roll singers. You'll find out which vendors have superb and specialized selections, what they charge, what their terms of payments are, and other important information. The price for this guide is \$3.95 plus 75 cents for shipping handling (plus 8% sales tax for Connecticut residents). Canadian orders 20% more. Overseas orders, send SAE with IRC for prices. TRIANON, PO Box 3273, Stamford, CT 06905-0273.

CORELLIAN ARCHIVES is looking for copies of ROGUE'S GALLERY #2, DARK LORD (Swedish version) #6, and OLD REPUBLIC READER #2 and #3, good xerox or originals. Contact Ming Wathne, Curator - Corellian Archives, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110. Postage charges will be returned for authentic information on availability.

FAN ZINE LIBRARY needs donations of out of print zines. Complete sets of SIMON & SIMON INVESTIGATIONS and TIME WINDS have been donated by their editors, but we need more—V, UNCLE, STAR TREK, BEAUTY AND BEAST, and multi-media. For info on how we operate, SASE Ming Wathne, Curator—Corellian Archives, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

HIP DEEP IN HEROES. A Blake's 7 filk song tape including songs by Taero, Nussman, Garrett, Green and more, performed by Zen Nine from Outer Space. High quality chrome tape. \$12 post-paid from Meg Garrett, The Court of Chaos, 727 N. Baker Ave., Ontario, CA 91764. (Checks payable to Meg Garrett)

LOOKING FOR ARTISTS, Authors, Poets, Puzzle makers for BRIGHT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE #2. SASE to Ming Wathne, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110 for publishing outline.

STAR BIRTHDAYS. An alphabetical listing of about 6,000 living actors on daytime, prime time and BBC television, films and theaters. Our test market participants were amazed to find their favorites included because other reference books ignored them. The cost is \$8.95 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling (plus 8% sales tax for Connecticut residents). Send birthday cards to your favorite stars or settle friendly arguments with this easy-to-use guide! Canadian orders 20% more. Overseas orders, send SAE with IRC for prices. TRIANON, PO Box 3273, Stamford, CT 06905-0273.

SW/FORD ZINE SALE. SKYWALKER #6—\$20.00. LEGENDS OF LIGHT #2—\$20.00. A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #1—\$15.00. CIRCLE OF LIGHT #3—\$15.00. FAR REALMS #7—\$20.00. FLIP OF A COIN 1-8 \$15.00 each. Add postage. C. Gollodge, Rt 1, Box 20E, Fillmore, NY 14735.

SOUTHERN ENCLAVE T-SHIRTS. The following extra SE shirts are currently available: one X-Large (navy), and four Larges (2 royal blue, 1 navy and 1 grass green). Design printed in white. First come, first served. \$12.00 first class mail. Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Drive, Garland, TX 75043.

WANTED: 2-hour "Twin Peaks" episode aired 9/8/90 or original airings thereof (Ep. 6 & 7). Must be on VHS tape and SP mode. Will pay for tape, plus handling, something for your trouble. Sharon Bishop, 50 Sesame Street, Keene, NH 03431-4842.

ZINE SALE: Over 200 zines from SW, ST, UNCLE, B7, B:G, A-TEAM, V, and others! Also have zines from Australia, Canada, England, Scotland! First come, first served! Please send a large SASE—2 stamps! Marilyn Reichman, 448 Neptune, Avenue, Apt. 13H, Brooklyn, NY 11224.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Sue Zahn
305 N. Frances #501
Madison, WI 53703

David and Cynthia Manship
7730 Blackshear Drive
Huber Heights, OH 45424

SOUTHERN ENCLAVE
Cheree Cargill
457 Meadowhill Drive
Garland, TX 75043

STAR AWARDS QUESTIONNAIRE

Due to the lack of interest in Fan Q Awards in Star Wars fiction, I volunteered to run our very own awards. This would have been easier if we had decided to do it starting in 1991 but to keep it going (since Fan Q did NOT hve a SW division this year) we are going to vote on 1990. I NEED YOUR HELP!! First, in finding out just what categories we should vote on. Secondly, I need editors, writers, illustrators or fen to let me know what SW stuff was printed in 1990 and thereafter for that matter. This years awards will be done by mail and next year, hopefully, we will be able to vote BEFORE Media West and have the awards ceremony there. I would like to include ALL SW material rather than having nominations. This will keep the awards from becoming a popularity contest. Each voter would chose three in each category, listing them 1 through 3. 1 would be given 30 points, 2 - 20 points and 3 - 10 points and the highest total would win the award. Editors, writers, artists, etc. get little enough reward for their efforts. For all the hours they have given us in reading or viewing pleasure, we can repay them at least a little bit. Please take some time and answer the following questions and return to me. Also if you know of anyone who might be a SW fen who should receive this (and the ballot), please list their name and address at the end or on a separate sheet of paper. I also want to thank Cheree Cargill for thinking up STAR aWARDs!! Also any donations will be greatly appreciated to defray postage.

1. Do you know of any SW zine (printed in 90 or 91) OTHER than those listed below?

A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #5	August 1990
FROM A CERTAIN POINT OF VIEW #5	June 1990
WOOKIEE COMMODE #7	1990
SITH YEARBOOK #2	?
ANAKIN	1991
ANOTHER SKY	due summer 1991
BRIGHT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE	May 1991
CHRONICLES OF THE HOUSE OF ALDERAAN	February 1991
IMPERIUM III	due fall 1991
ON A CLEAR DAY YOU CAN SEE DAGOBAH # 5	May 1991

Do you know of any MM zine (printed in 90 or 91) that contains SW material OTHER than those listed below?

FLIP OF A COIN #14	October 1990
SHADOWSTAR #32	Spring 1990
REMOTE CONTROL #1	1991
TIMEFRAME #2	1991

If you do, please send name/editor of SW zine. On MM zines, please send name, editor, title of story (poem, illo, filk, etc.), writer, length of story on separate sheet of paper.

2. Would you be willing to pay a fee (or donation) with your votes to defray costs of printing (or buying) awards? YES or NO. (A fee or donation will NOT be mandatory for voting) If yes, what do you think is a fair amount. \$ If no, where do you think the money should come from?
3. A certificate is being planned at this moment suitable for framing. Do you have any other suggestions? Are you or do you know of an artist who would be willing to draw the certificate?
4. Which of the following categories would you like to see voted on (check all those which you agree with and list any additional you think should be voted on).

Best SW zine
Best MM zine (with SW)
Best Short Story (under 10 pages)
Best Medium Story (11-50 pages)
Best Long Story (50+ pages)
Best Cover Artist
Best Illustration Artist
Best Poem
Best Miscellaneous (see below)
Best Letterzine/Newsletter

Best SW editor
Best MM editor (with SW)
Best Writer
Best New Writer
Best Short Story Writer
Best Medium Story Writer
Best Long Story Writer
Best Poet
Best Club

(Miscellaneous would include puzzles, filks, cartoons, etc. Eventually I would like to see these separated into distinct categories but there weren't that many for 90).

5. The following zines may or may not have been printed in 90 with SW stories - can you help with printing dates and SW material?

BETTER IDEA ZINE - editor Cindy Smith
HIBERNATION SICKNESS - editor Lisa Thomas

RETURN TO:
JUDITH G. YUENGER
901 Meadowcrest Road
LaGrange Park, IL 60525-1530